



SEA TURTLE SNACKTIME



Watch the "Sea Turtle Snacktime! What do Sea Turtles Eat?" video on to learn about our sea turtle's favorite foods.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gw5m-yAsb-U>

For instructors, parents, or guardians:

Lesson learning objectives: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to define omnivore and carnivore and apply these definitions to differentiate diet items between different sea turtle species.

1. Introduce the topic:

This lesson will cover differences between the diets of multiple sea turtle species. Start off the lesson by showing your student(s) the video. Have your student(s) pay attention to how the type of food changes with each species of turtle. See how many species they can find in the video.

2. Who was in the video?

Loggerheads: Loggerhead sea turtles get their names from their large heads which are used to crush shelled animals, like clams. They are carnivores which means that they eat meat. In the wild this could include crabs, shelled animals, fish, and squid. The aquarium has one resident loggerhead, Snorkel.

Snorkel: CMA Resident





Kemp's ridley

These sea turtles are shaped like a loggerhead, but are much lighter in color and smaller. Because they are smaller, they do not eat those big shelled items like the loggerhead but still eat fish and squid. Clearwater Marine Aquarium has three resident Kemp's Ridleys. Max, Madam, and Rob. They are also a common patient of our animal hospital, many of which you can see in the video.

Max: CMA Resident





Green sea turtle

This species of sea turtle is different from the others because it is an omnivore. This means that it eats plants and meat but it eats way more plants than meat. In the wild, Green sea turtles mostly eat seagrass. At the aquarium, we cannot grow seagrass very easily, so instead they are given lettuce, kale, and other leafy greens. With their sea turtle salads, we usually give them a few fish, shrimp, and squids. Clearwater Marine Aquarium has 12 resident sea turtles, 9 of those residents are Greens. Green sea turtles are also the most common patient in our animal hospital.

Cocoa: CMA Resident





Hawksbill

These sea turtles are carnivores like the Loggerheads and Kemps Ridleys but they can also eat poisonous sponges. Their name comes from their hooked beak which resembles a bird. This allows Hawksbills to feed in tight spaces on coral reefs where sponges may be growing. CMA does not have any resident Hawksbills but we have rescue, rehabilitated, and released them in the past. Can you spot the Hawksbill in the video?.

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Hint: It is feeding at 0:22 in the video.

HUNGRY, HUNGRY SEA TURTLE



Help each sea turtle species make their way through the maze to the correct food item.



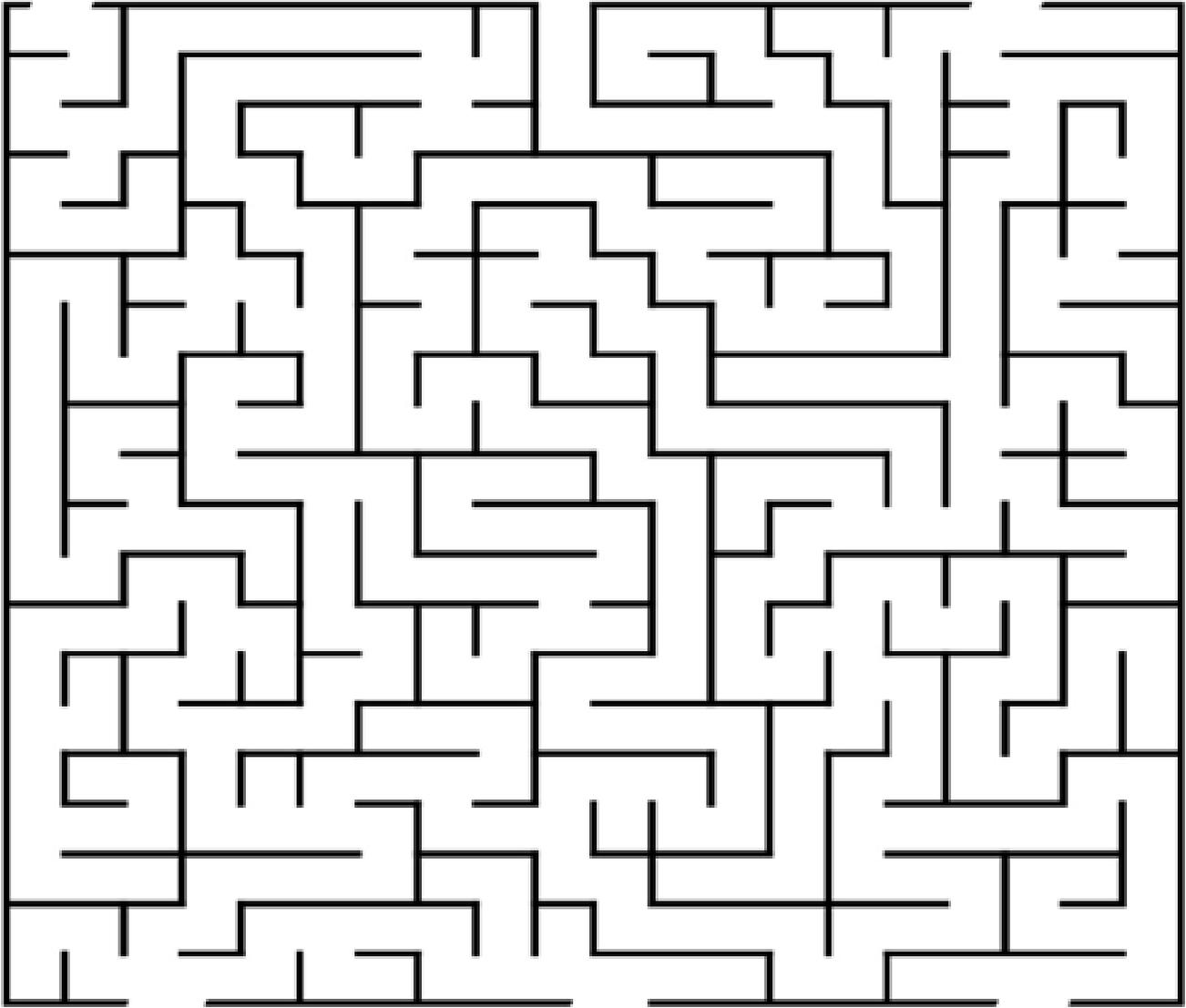
Clams



Sponges



Seagrass



Green



Loggerhead



Hawksbill

For an added challenge: **CMA FEEDING FRENZY**



We learned the difference between an omnivore and a carnivore but there is a third type of animal diet; herbivore. Herbivores only eat plants, kind of like a vegetarian. See if you can choose the correct diet for more Clearwater Marine Aquarium animals. Circle the correct diet for the following animals:

PJ: Bottlenose Dolphin



PJ is a **Carnivore, Omnivore, Herbivore** (circle one).

Titus: Green Sea Turtle



Titus is a **Carnivore, Omnivore, Herbivore** (circle one).

Vlad: Russian Tortoise



Vlad is a **Carnivore, Omnivore, Herbivore** (circle one).

Thelma: Nurse Shark



Thelma is a **Carnivore**, **Omnivore**, **Herbivore** (circle one).

Harry: Variegated Sea Urchin



Harry is a **Carnivore**, **Omnivore**, **Herbivore** (circle one).