








# OCEANS OF THE WORLD

## WHAT IS AN OCEAN?

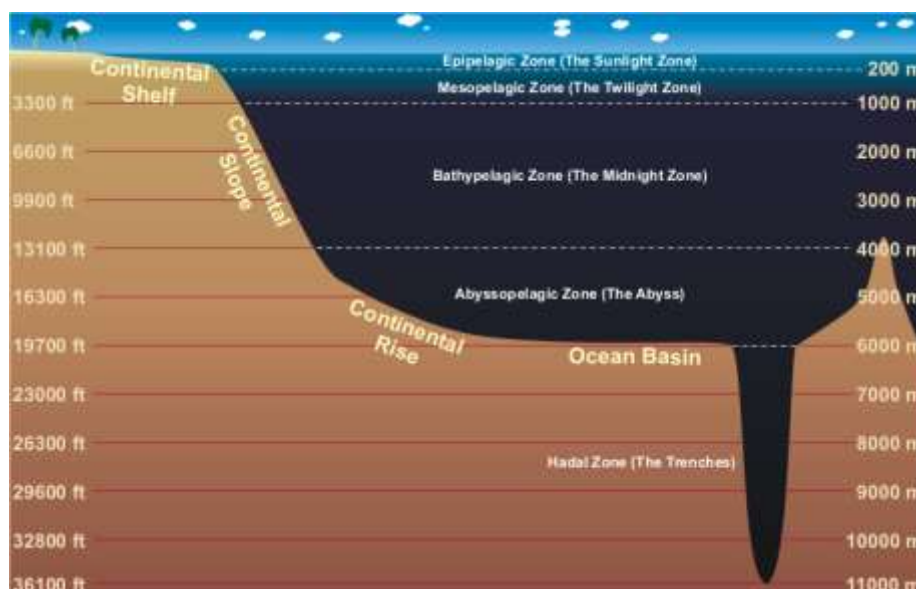


An ocean is a very large area of salt water. There are five oceans in the world: Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean (Antarctic Ocean) and Arctic Ocean collectively these are referred to as the ocean. There are over 700,000 different species of animal that live in the ocean and the majority of organisms on Earth live underwater. The ocean is also full of tiny plants which help produce oxygen.

Ocean	Description
<b>Pacific Ocean</b> 	<p>Biggest ocean in the world.</p> <p>Home to the Great Barrier Reef.</p> <p>The deepest point on Earth is in the Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>The Pacific Ocean is surrounded by a line of volcanoes known as the Ring of Fire. It reaches from North and South America and Australia.</p>
<b>Atlantic Ocean</b> 	<p>Second biggest ocean in the world.</p> <p>The Atlantic Ocean is half the size of the Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>The Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the longest mountain range in the world, is underwater in the Atlantic Ocean.</p> <p>It reaches from North and South America to Europe and Africa.</p>
<b>Indian Ocean</b> 	<p>The third biggest ocean in the world.</p> <p>Named after the country India.</p> <p>The Indian Ocean is home to many endangered sea creatures, including turtles, seals and dugongs (sea cows).</p>
<b>Southern Ocean</b> 	<p>Second smallest ocean in the world.</p> <p>It is also known as the Antarctic Ocean as it surrounds Antarctica.</p> <p>It is the coldest and wildest ocean in the world.</p> <p>It is home to emperor penguins, blue whales, elephant seals, giant squid and the wandering albatross.</p>
<b>Arctic Ocean</b> 	<p>Smallest ocean in the world.</p> <p>It surrounds the Arctic.</p> <p>Often, the Arctic Ocean is completely covered in ice.</p> <p>Polar bears live on the ice that covers the ocean and can swim in the water.</p>



LAYERS OF THE OCEAN



Layer	Description
<b>The Sunlight Zone (0m-200m)</b>	Temperature is between 12-20 degrees. Most ocean organisms live here because it receives the most sunlight. Dolphins, turtles, rays, seals, coral, jellyfish and many more types of fish and animals live in this zone.
<b>The Twilight Zone (200m-1000m)</b>	Temperature is between 4-13 degrees. Very little sunlight reaches this zone. Animals such as hales, shrimps, swordfish, hatchet fish and octopuses live in this zone. No plants grow in this zone because there is not enough sunlight to perform photosynthesis.
<b>The Midnight Zone (1000m-4000m)</b>	Temperature 4 degrees. Sunlight does not reach this layer. In this zone, you will find animals such as larger whales, squid, echinoids and blob fish.
<b>The Lower Midnight Zone (4000m-6000m)</b>	Temperature is 0 degrees. Conditions in this zone are extremely dark. The organisms that live in this zone include sea spiders, basket stars, medusas and sea pigs.
<b>The Trenches (Lower than 6000m)</b>	It is pitch black and the temperature is 0 degrees. Most animals living in this zone are unable to see. Some fish live in this zone, such as rat tail fish and liparid fish.

INTERESTING FACTS



- Sunlight shines on the oceans just like on the land. However, light does not reach the deepest layer of the ocean.
- The Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean is the deepest place on Earth. It is 11,000m deep.
- An oil rig operates at a depth of 2438m.
- The Lower Midnight Zone is the largest environment on Earth.
- The deepest point of the Arctic Ocean is 5450m below sea level.
- 70% of the Earth's surface is covered in water.

### FIND OUT MORE

<https://www.ducksters.com/geography/oceans.php>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zmqwscw>

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### EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. How many oceans are there in the world?
2. Which ocean is home to endangered sea creatures, including turtles, seals and dugongs (sea cows)?
3. What ocean is the biggest in the world?
4. What is the lowest level of the ocean?
5. What percentage of the Earth's surface is made up of water?
6. Which layer of the ocean experiences temperatures of 4-13 degrees?