

In the zone

The deeper in the ocean you go, the less sunlight there is. Some animals always live in one zone, while others travel between zones to hunt and feed.

0-600 feet THE SUNLIGHT ZONE

The sunlight zone teems with life. This is where almost all sea creatures live, including many sharks and smaller fish, mammals, turtles, and sea birds. Plants and plankton live here, too.



600-3,300 feet THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Most of the creatures that live on the seafloor are found in the twilight zone. Only filtered sunlight reaches here, so the light is dim. Many animals in this zone have big eyes or glow in the dark.



3,300-13,000 feet THE MIDNIGHT ZONE

The midnight zone is pitch black and cold. Animals here have special ways of finding food in the dark. The deepest part of this zone is called the abyss.

