Lesson11

Four Types of Mangroves

Mangroves are ecosystems found along the coast and in swampy areas with brackish and salt water. The four common types of mangroves found locally are red mangroves, black mangroves, white mangroves, and buttonwood. Each mangrove has a special role to play in the ecosystem.

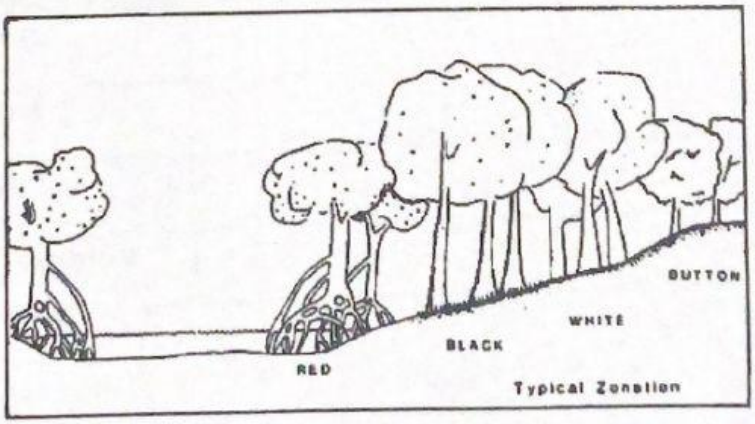
Red mangroves live in water along the shoreline. They have thick prop roots that trap debris and mud. They help to prevent waves from flowing inland, and this helps to reduce flooding.

Black mangroves live in shallower salty water. They are surrounded by thin breathing roots.

White mangroves usually live in brackish water. They have thick, knobby breathing roots.

Buttonwood lives near the sea on rocks and beaches. They have no prop or breathing roots.

Mangrove ecosystems serve as an important source of **nutrients** and **nurseries** for young fish, and as homes for many animals such as crabs and shellfish. In The Bahamas, mangroves are referred to as "flats", "swamp" and "swash".



LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. Explain why mangroves is important to small fish. [2]

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2. Give TWO other names by which mangroves are called in The Bahamas. [2]

_____ _____

3. Named TWO marine animals that the mangroves are home to. [2]

_____ _____

4. Give TWO examples that show the importance of mangroves. [2]

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5. Complete the chart by writing in where each of the mangroves lives and the type of roots each has. [8]

Name	Where Mangroves Live	Types of Roots
White Mangrove		
Black Mangrove		
Red Mangrove		
Buttonwood Mangrove		

LIVEWORKSHEETS