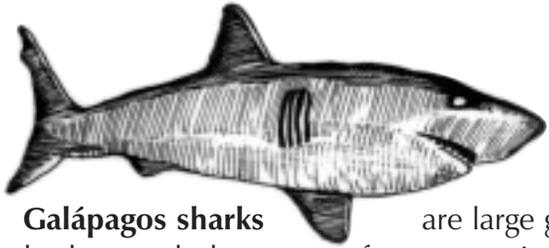
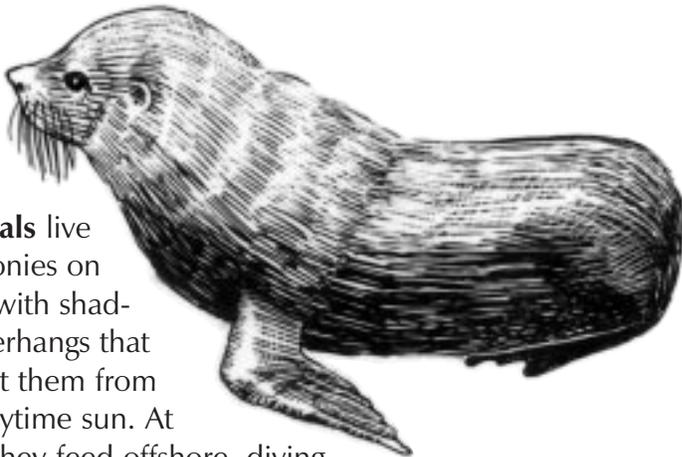


GALAPAGOS MARINE ORGANISMS



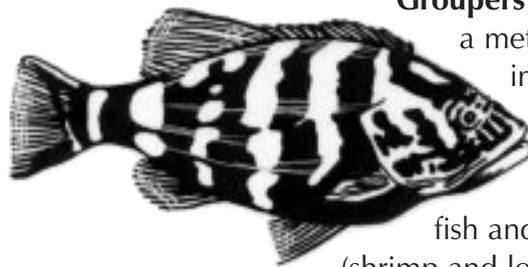
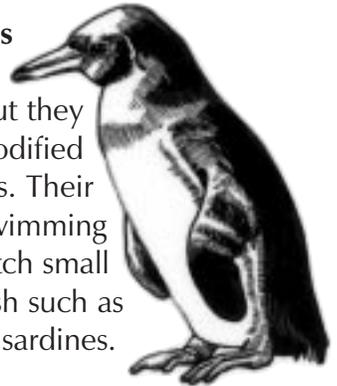
Galápagos sharks are large gray sharks that reach three to four meters in length. To satisfy their large appetites, they eat medium to large-sized fish such as grouper and frequently take bites out of sea lions and sea turtles.

Anchovies and **sardines** are small fish that feed on zooplankton that drift close to shore.

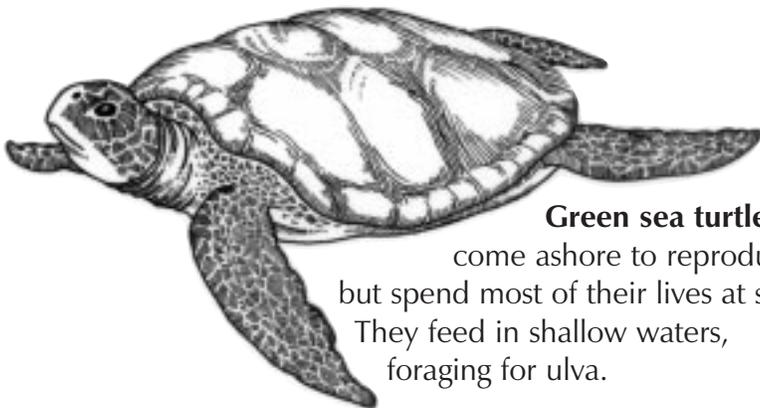


Fur seals live in colonies on rocks with shaded overhangs that protect them from the daytime sun. At night they feed offshore, diving about 30 meters below the surface to catch fish and squid.

Galápagos penguins cannot fly in the air, but they use their greatly modified wings like paddles. Their swift underwater swimming allows them to catch small schooling fish such as anchovies and sardines.



Groupers can grow to a meter or more in length. They prey upon small and medium-sized fish and crustaceans (shrimp and lobsters).



Green sea turtles come ashore to reproduce, but spend most of their lives at sea. They feed in shallow waters, foraging for ulva.

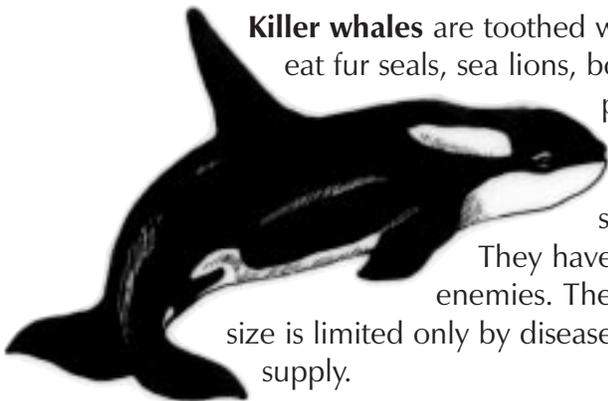
Phytoplankton are very abundant, but minute (less than one millimeter) algae and plant-like organisms that drift in the ocean. They live near the surface, using sunlight, carbon dioxide and water to produce food and oxygen.



Ulva is a fast-growing seaweed that looks like lettuce leaves. It is an important food for turtles, as well as for herbivorous fish.



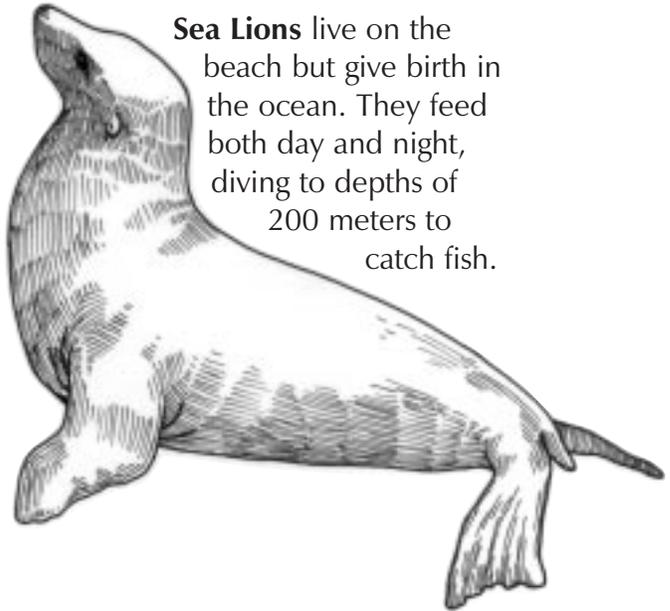
Killer whales are toothed whales that eat fur seals, sea lions, bottle-nosed porpoises and large and medium-sized fish. They have no natural enemies. Their population size is limited only by disease and food supply.



Humpback whales are toothless whales that gulp in huge quantities of seawater, using plates in their mouths to strain out plankton, small fish and other small organisms for food. The killer whale is its natural enemy, and preys on its young.



Sea Lions live on the beach but give birth in the ocean. They feed both day and night, diving to depths of 200 meters to catch fish.



Zooplankton are animals that float or swim very weakly. As they drift around, the zooplankton feed on phytoplankton.

