

Life in the water



Exotic fish, colourful coral, hidden life ... The underwater world is full of fascinating natural spectacles and a variety of unique creatures. For World Kids Colouring Day 2023, children explore the habitat of water and record their discoveries in colourful pictures.



Unexplored

Assumptions vary widely about how many species of marine animals there are. One thing is clear, however, we don't know them all yet. So far, around 230,000 species have been scientifically recorded.

Watch out for those teeth

Sharks have revolver dentition. They have several rows of teeth – if a tooth breaks off, it is simply replaced by one from the row behind. Depending on the species, a shark can get through up to 30,000 teeth during its life.

Deep sea residents

Almost a third of the world's oceans are 4,000 to 5,000 metres deep. However, most sea creatures don't venture that far – the blue whale, for example, only dives down to a maximum of 500 metres. The deep sea is home to some strange creatures such as the deep-sea anglerfish.

Air from water?

Around 71 percent of the Earth's surface is covered by water. This is fortunate because the ocean produces around 70 percent of the oxygen humans need to breathe due to microalgae that release oxygen via photosynthesis.



World Kids Colouring Day 2023 calls on children to discover the habitat of water.



Mountainous landscapes



The highest mountain in the world is Mount Everest. Well, it is, but only among the mountains on the earth's surface. But Manua Kea in Hawaii measures over 10,200 metres – of which only around 4,200 metres are above sea level, the rest underwater.

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Climate currents

Around the globe, ocean currents transport huge amounts of water from A to B. They also have an impact on the climate because warm currents, such as the Gulf Stream, cause mild temperatures, while cold currents lower the temperature.

Cosying up

Fish like body contact – at least with each other. Studies have shown that tangs touch other fish when they are afraid, in order to calm themselves down.



No need for sleep deprivation

Dolphins can even swim while they sleep. One of the cerebral hemispheres switches off, while the other remains awake so that the dolphin surfaces in time to breathe.



Sweet or salty?

It sounds logical – the difference between fresh and salt water is the salinity of the water. If the salt content of water is less than 0.1 percent, this is referred to as fresh water. Incidentally, the water in the world's oceans has an average salt content of 3.5 percent.



Underwater concert

Whales are amazing singers – at least when it comes to volume. They sing very loudly: up to 230 decibels in fact. A jet plane taking off is only half as loud as that.

Sun worshipper

What do corals need to grow? Sunlight! Coral reefs are usually no deeper than 14 metres to ensure they get enough warm rays.

Aquatic animals

No brain, no blood, no bones, no heart – jellyfish consist of 99 percent water. They are made up of only three layers: the outer skin, a jelly-like mass as an intermediate layer and an inner layer with a cavity as the stomach.

