

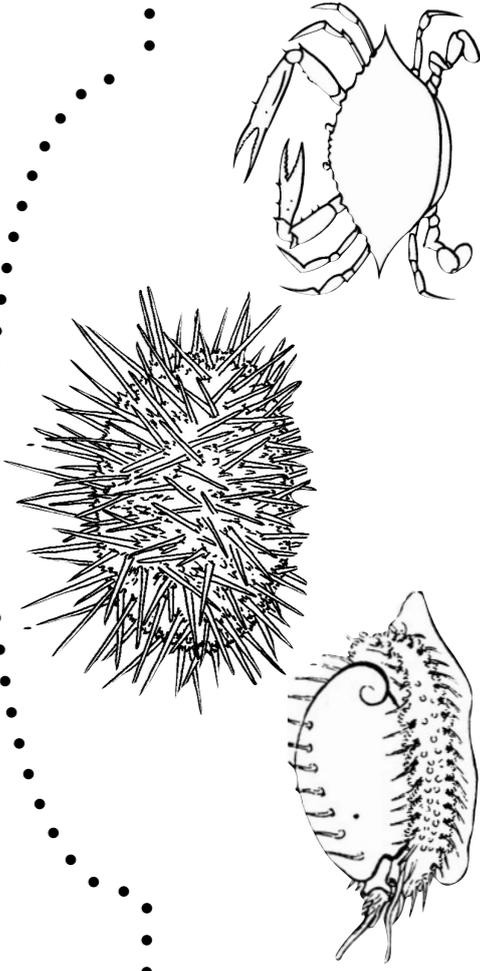
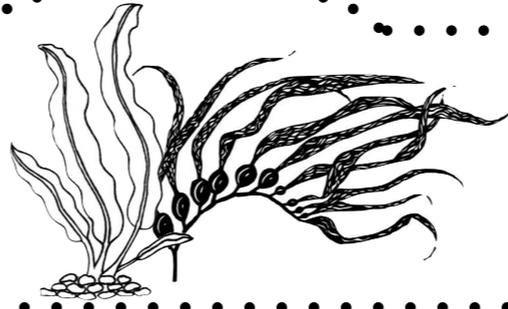
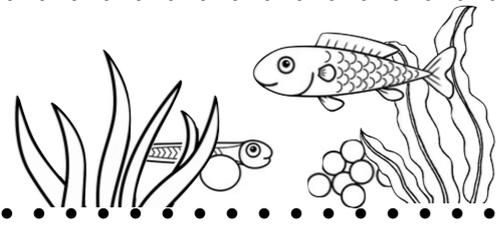
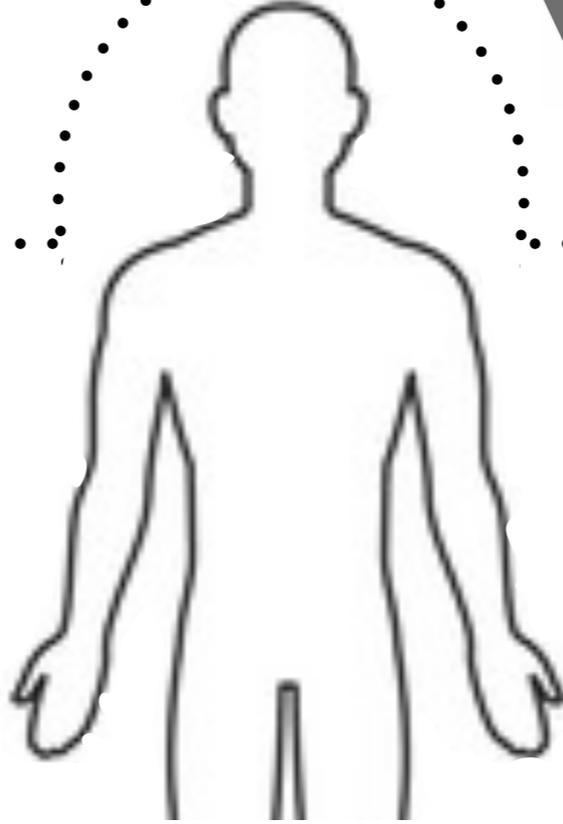
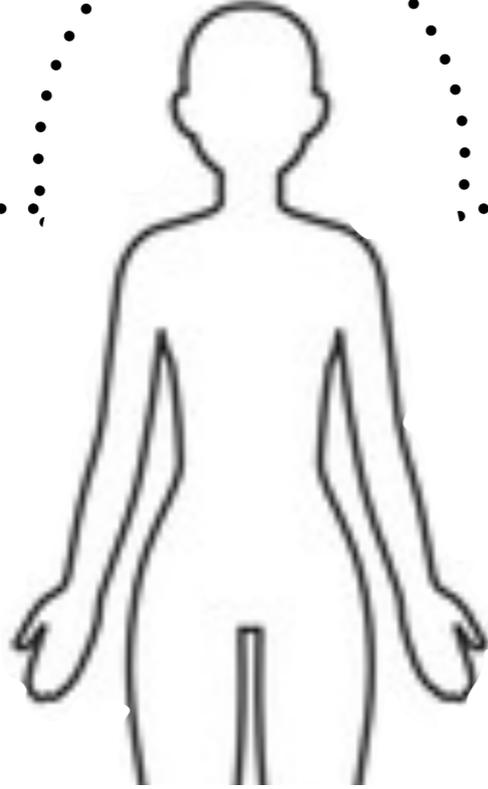
Sea Otters:

Chain of

Impact

Nesting

Activity



Ecosystem: An ecosystem is an environment where plants, animals, and other living things work and live together. Reintroducing Sea Otters to the Oregon coast could help us to have a healthy marine ecosystem which would benefit many fish, shellfish, and other marine animals.

Kelp: Kelp forests are places where Sea Otters like to live, eat, and sleep. Like forests we see on land, kelp forests store carbon dioxide and keep our waters clean, but also act as homes for many marine animals and help promote diversity in the ocean. Sea otters could help keep our kelp forests around and healthy by eating the Purple Sea Urchins that are destroying the kelp.

Sea Otter: Sea Otters are not only important to Native American culture and for all of us to enjoy, but they also help keep kelp forests healthy which is good for our oceans. Sea otters live in kelp forests and eat the Purple Sea Urchins that are destroying a lot of the kelp forests on the Oregon coast.

Purple Sea Urchin: The Pacific Purple Sea Urchin and other sea creatures like abalone and crabs feed on kelp. But Purple Sea Urchins can sometimes eat so much of the kelp in one area until the point that the kelp is completely gone. When this happens, it is called an 'urchin barren'.

Human: Native Americans along the Oregon Coast traditionally used Sea Otter pelts as fancy clothing or expensive gifts, but they also treat them with respect and see them as kin or relatives. But during the Maritime Fur Trade from 1741-1910, Sea Otters almost went extinct because of overhunting by many European and other cultures. Organizations like the Elakha