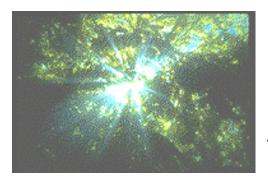
Kelp Forest Mini-tour



Looking up a the kelp forest canopy.

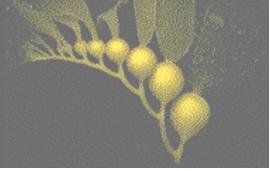


The large leaf-like fronds capture sunlight from the surface.

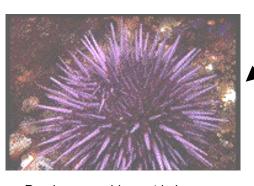


Kelp can grow as much as ten inches per day.

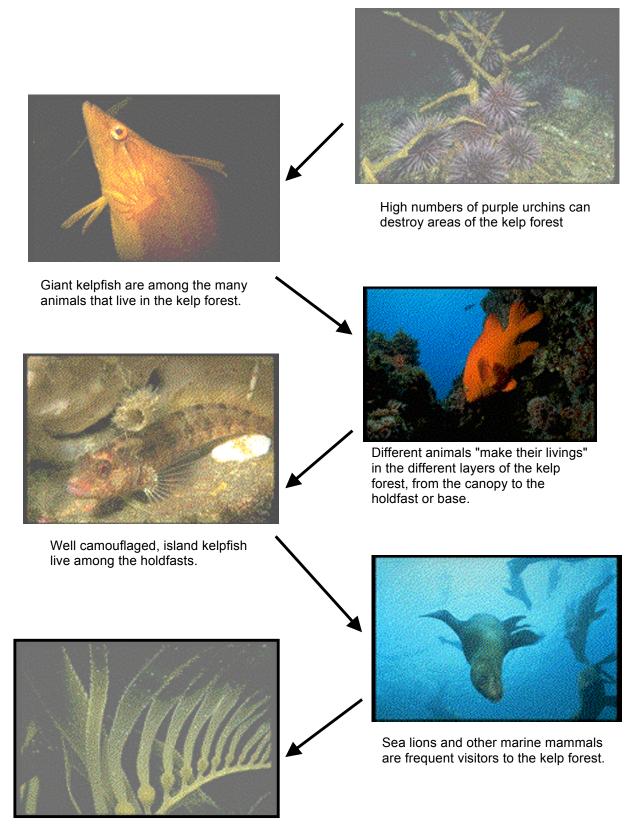




Gas filled floats help the fronds stay near the sunlit surface.



Purple sea urchins eat kelp. Sometimes their numbers are very high.



The kelp forest is a rich and diverse, but fragile, habitat.

Photos courtesy of NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

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