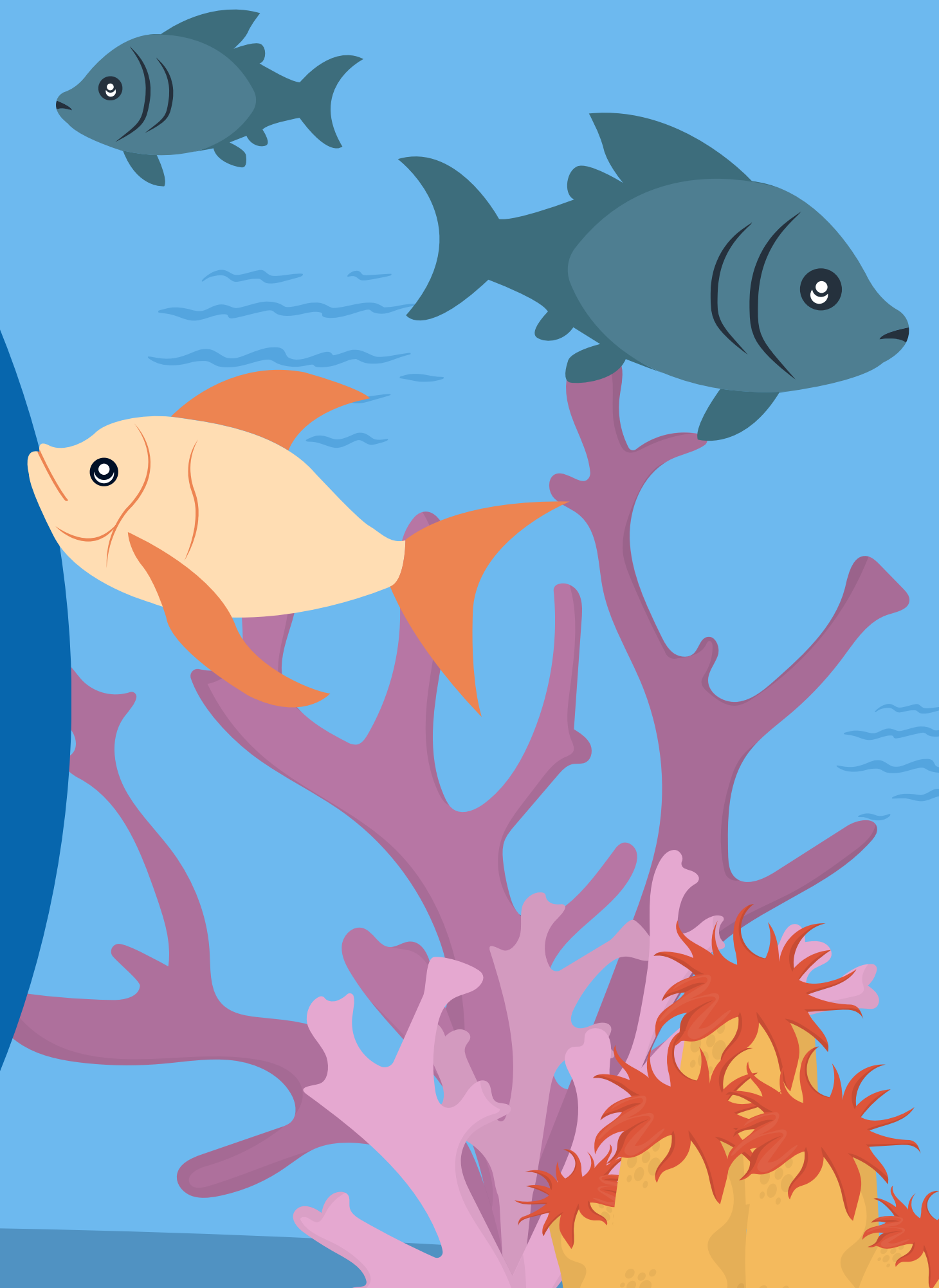
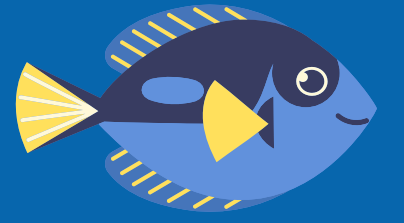


# FISHES IN THE AEGEAN SEA

Miksa, Bugajski, Nawrocki, Navickas  
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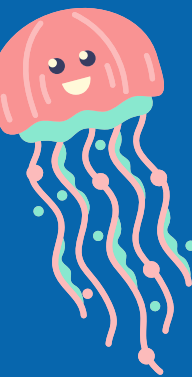
# INTRODUCTION TO THE AEGEAN SEA



The Aegean Sea, nestled between the eastern Mediterranean and the western coast of Turkey, stands as a testament to nature's magnificence and resilience. Its azure waters, stretching over 214,000 square kilometers, host a vibrant ecosystem teeming with life. But this sea is not just a geographical expanse; it's a cradle of civilization, steeped in myth, history, and biodiversity.

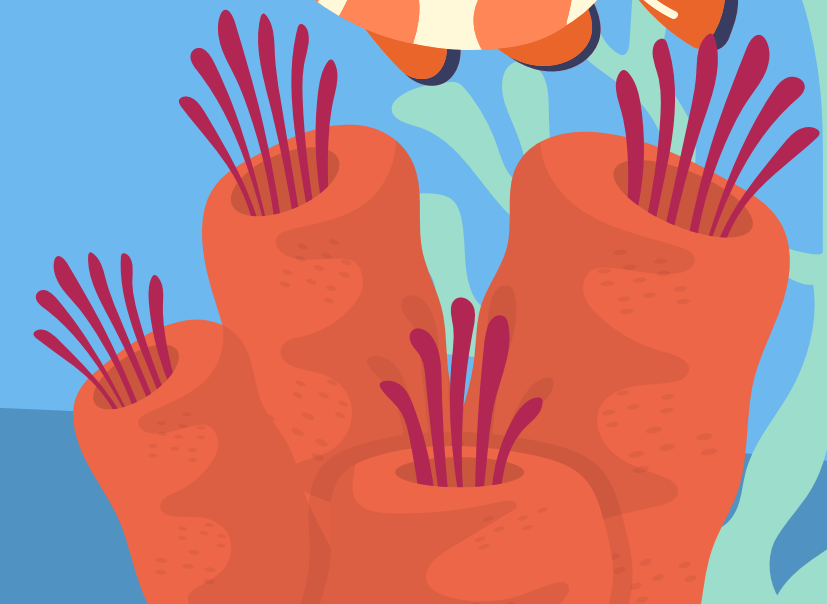
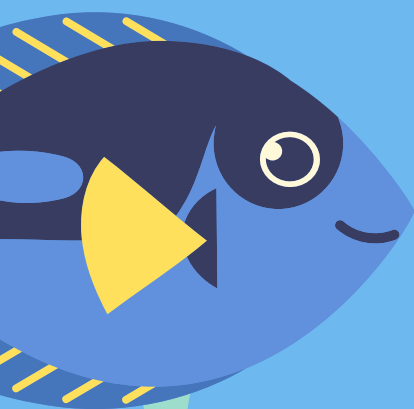
From the sun-kissed shores of Greece to the rugged coastlines of Turkey, the Aegean Sea has been a vital lifeline for countless communities for millennia. Its warm, nutrient-rich waters provide sustenance to an astonishing array of marine life, from microscopic plankton to majestic whales.

Finally, technology and innovation are also part of the solution. From developing plastic recycling methods to finding environmentally friendly alternatives, many technological efforts are supporting the management of plastic waste in the ocean.

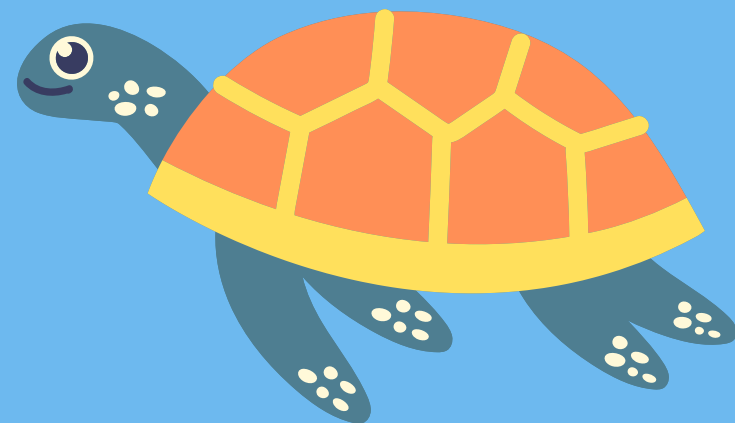




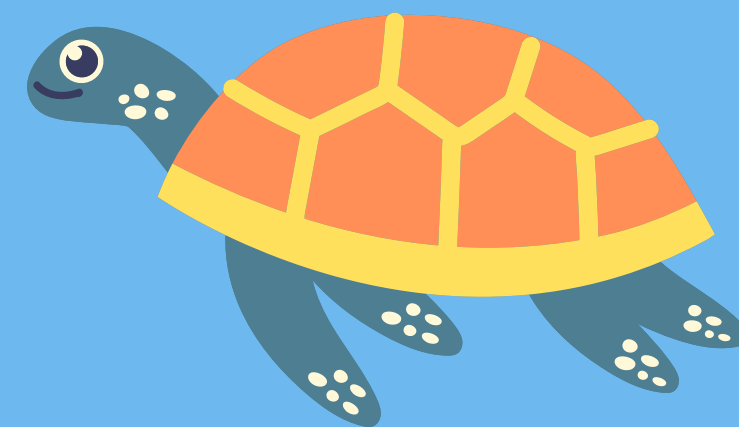
# Map of the Aegan See







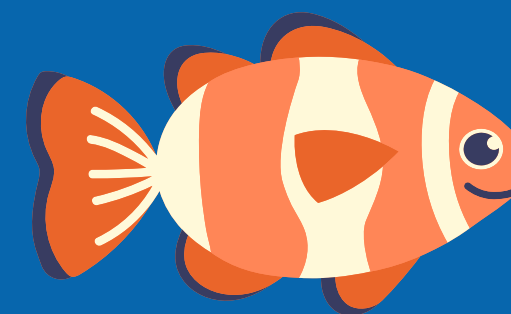
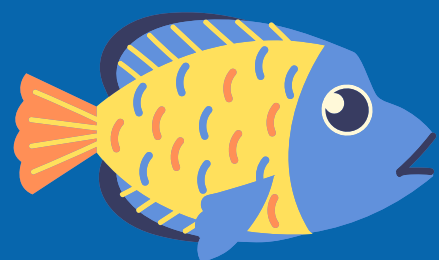
# BIODIVERSITY IN THE AEGEAN



The Aegean Sea is renowned for its extraordinary biodiversity, making it a hotspot for marine enthusiasts and scientists alike. Its diverse habitats, ranging from rocky reefs to sandy bottoms, support an astonishing variety of marine species.

Numerous fish families populate these waters, each contributing to the intricate balance of the ecosystem. Among them, you'll find colorful reef fish like damselfish and wrasses darting among coral formations, while pelagic species such as tuna and mackerel roam the open seas.

Within these waters, an intricate web of life flourishes. From tiny seahorses camouflaged among seagrass beds to majestic sea turtles gliding gracefully through the depths, every corner of the Aegean Sea pulsates with vitality.



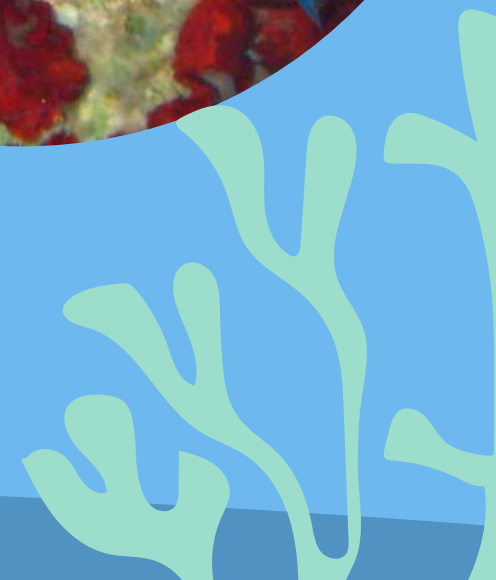
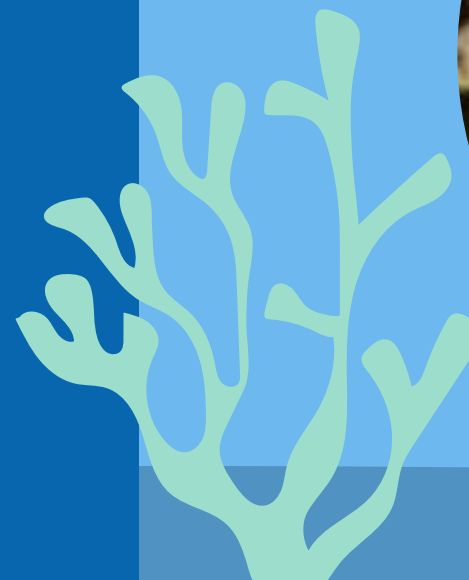
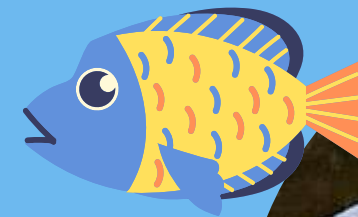
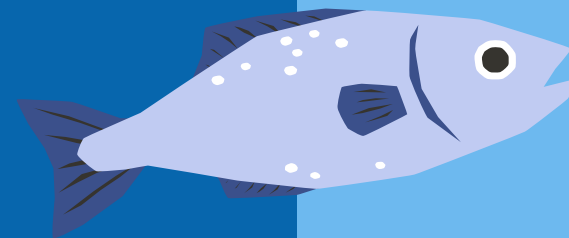
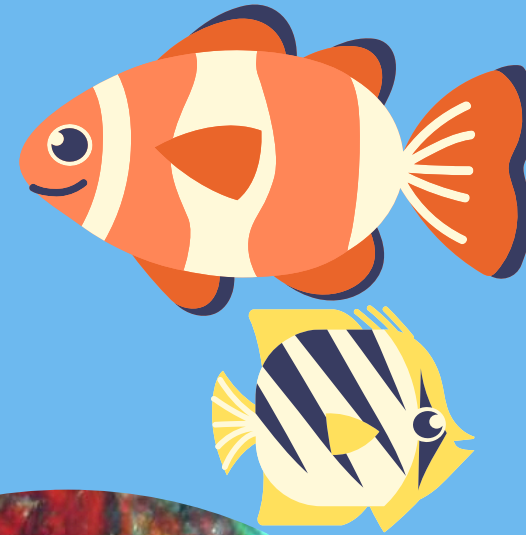
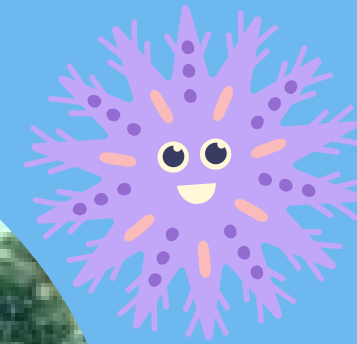
# COMMON REEF FISH

In the shallow, sunlit waters of the Aegean Sea, a dazzling array of reef fish paint the underwater landscape with their vibrant colors and intricate patterns. These common reef inhabitants play essential roles in maintaining the health and balance of coral ecosystems.

**Damselfish:** These small, territorial fish are known for their striking colors and aggressive behavior. Found darting among coral formations, damselfish fiercely defend their territories and nurture their young within the safety of coral crevices.

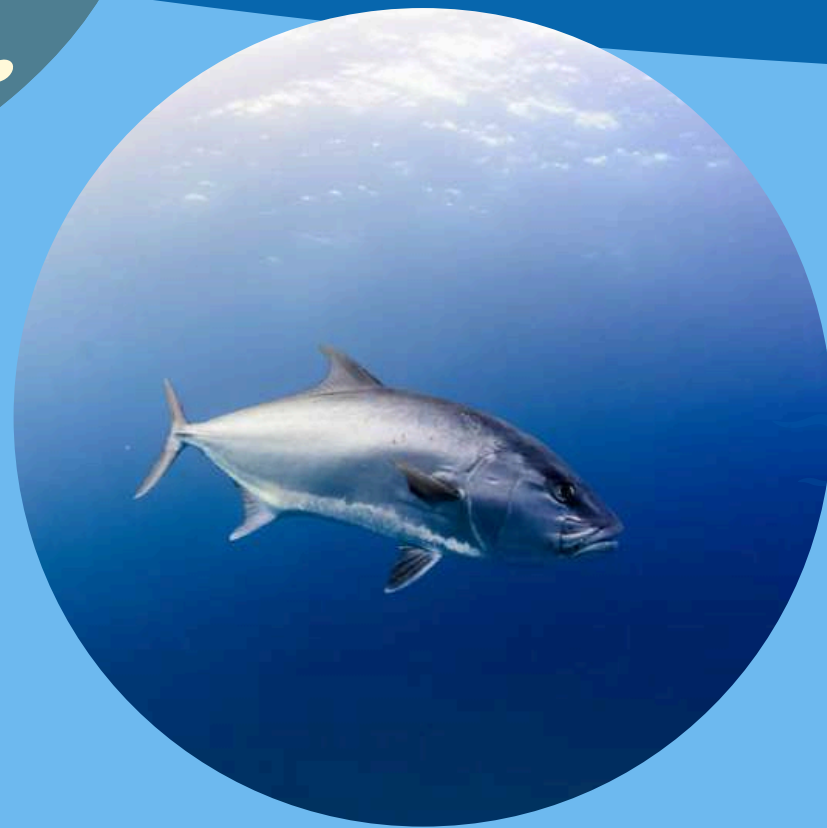
**Wrasses:** With their elongated bodies and vibrant hues, wrasses are a common sight in Aegean reefs. These versatile fish play multiple roles within the ecosystem, from controlling populations of reef-dwelling invertebrates to serving as cleaner fish, removing parasites from the skin of larger marine animals.

**Angelfish:** Graceful and adorned with intricate patterns, angelfish add an element of elegance to Aegean coral gardens. These omnivorous fish feed on a variety of algae and small invertebrates, contributing to the health and diversity of reef ecosystems.





# PELAGIC FISH SPECIES



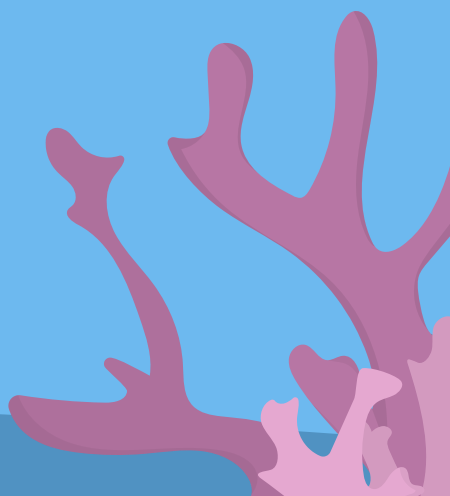
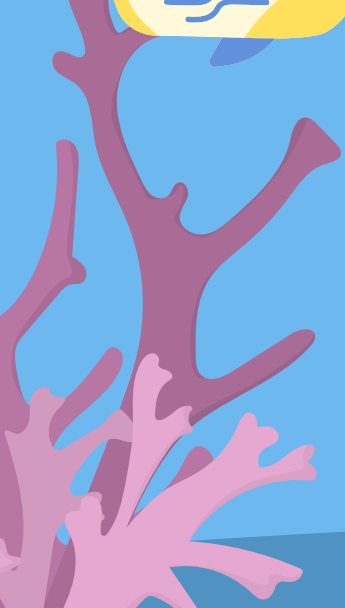
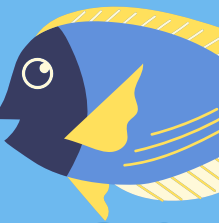
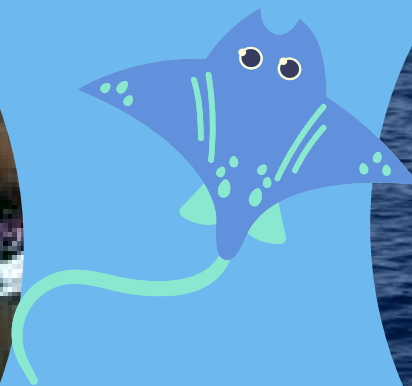
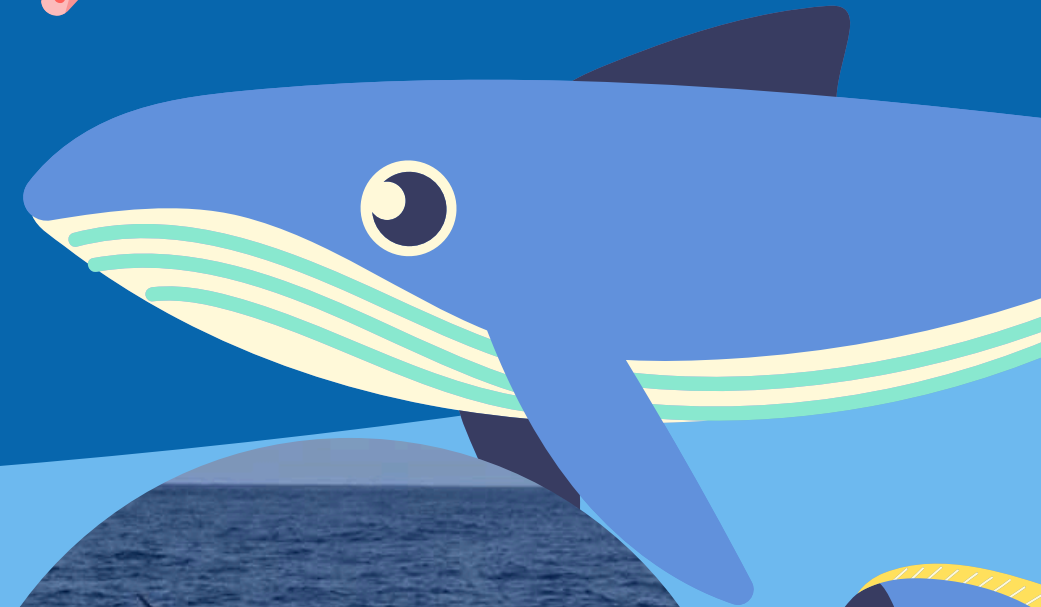
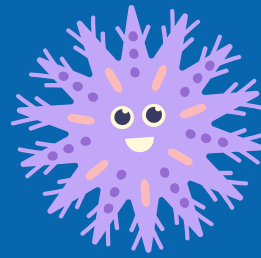
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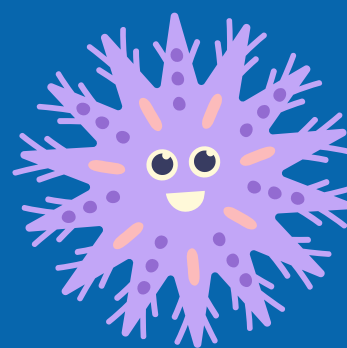


SWORDFISH



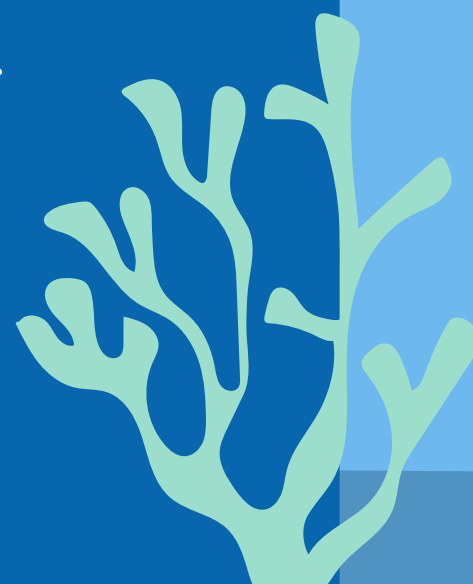
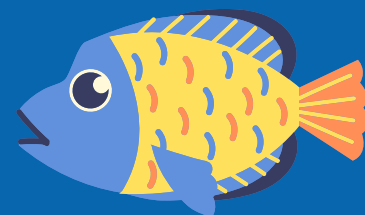
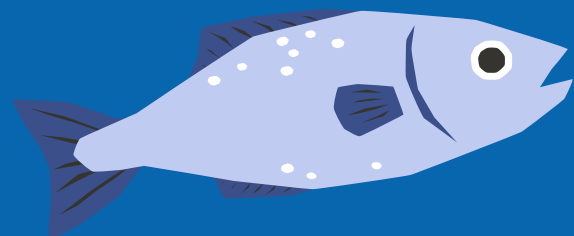
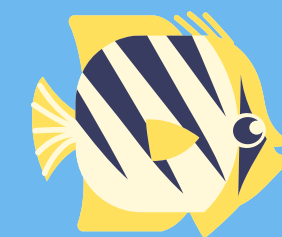


# CONSERVATION EFFORTS



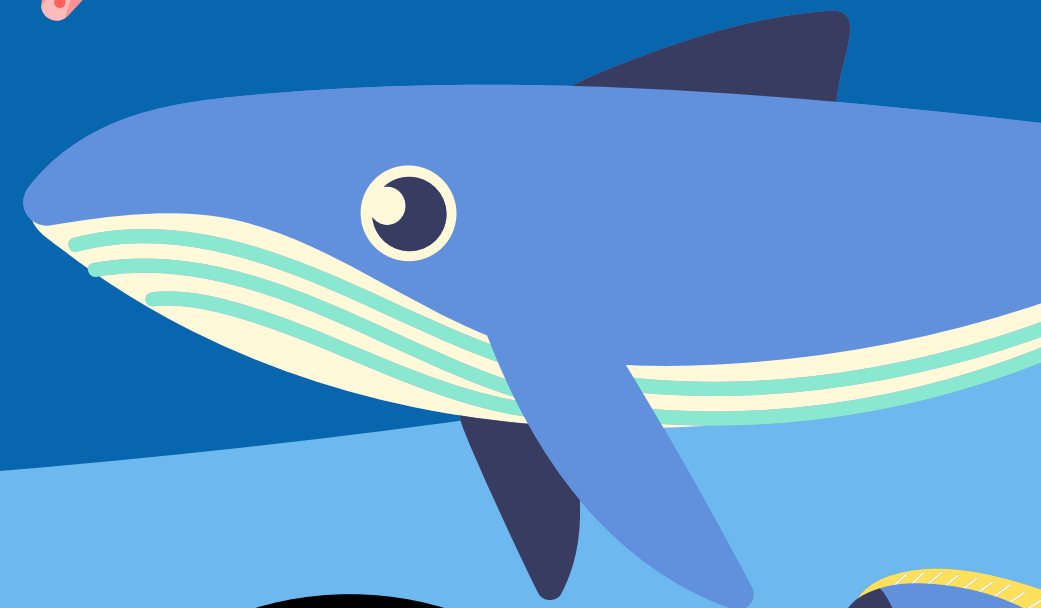
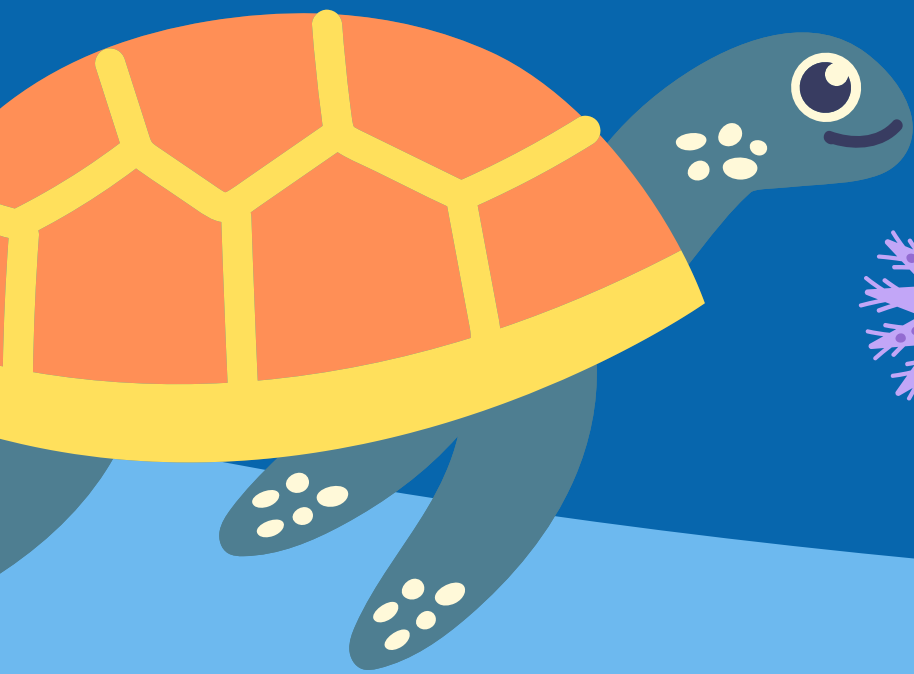
Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): Designated zones within the Aegean Sea where human activities are regulated or restricted to conserve biodiversity, protect critical habitats, and support fish populations.

Sustainable Fishing Practices: Initiatives promoting responsible fishing practices, such as selective harvesting, reduced bycatch, and seasonal closures, to minimize the impact on fish stocks and ensure their long-term viability.





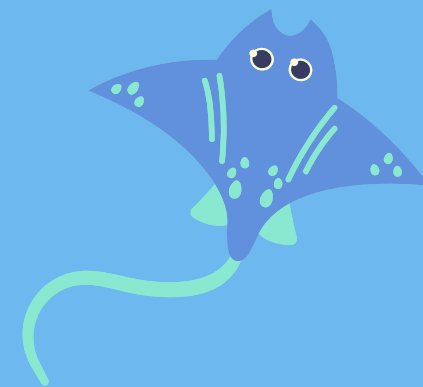
# UNIQUE FISH SPECIES OF THE AEGEAN



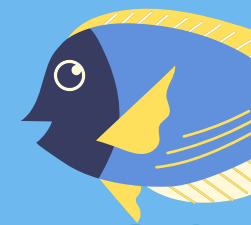
**AEGEAN SEA CATSHARK**



**AEGEAN RAINBOW WRASSE**

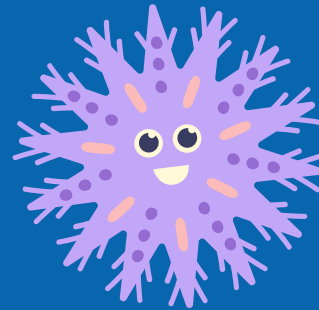
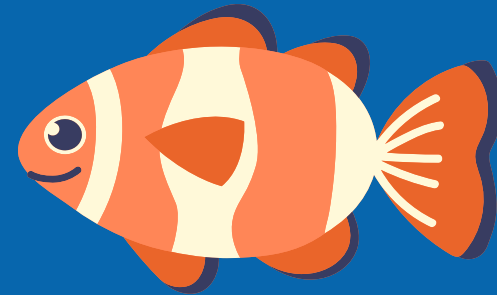


**AEGEAN WALL LIZARDFISH**

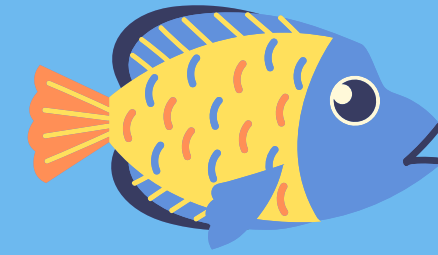




# AEGEAN SEA CATSHARK

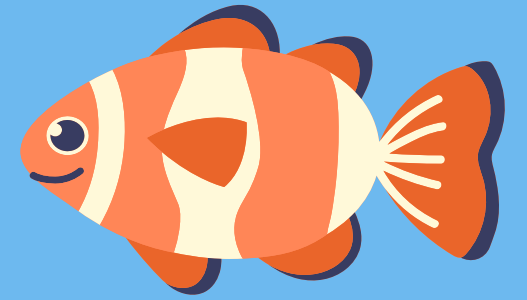
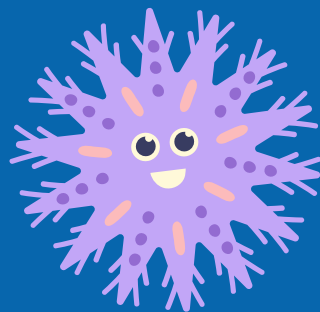
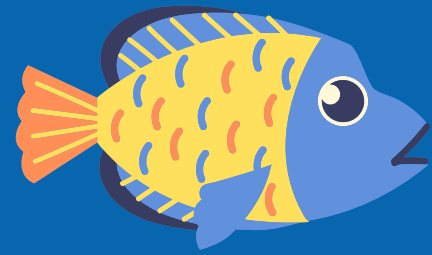


A rare and elusive species of shark endemic to the Aegean, distinguished by its slender body, camouflage pattern, and cat-like eyes. Despite its small size, this nocturnal predator plays a vital role in maintaining ecological balance in coastal ecosystems.



# AEGEAN RAINBOW WRASSE

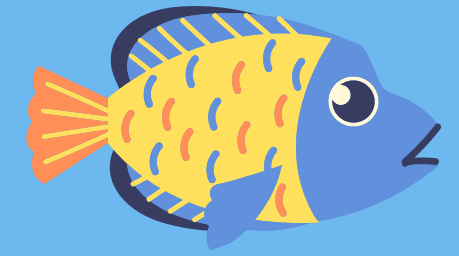
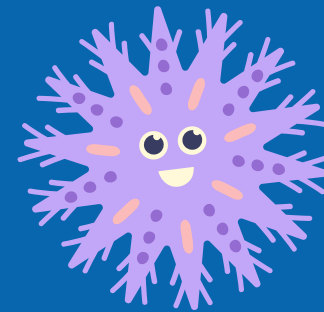
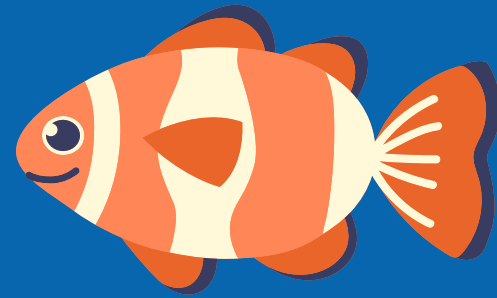
A dazzling jewel of the Aegean reefs, the Aegean Rainbow Wrasse is renowned for its vibrant colors and graceful movements. With its ability to change sex from female to male, this species embodies resilience and adaptability in the face of environmental challenges.





# AEGEAN WALL LIZARDFISH

The Aegean Wall Lizardfish, also known as *Lagocephalus aegyptiacus*, is a species of fish belonging to the family Tetraodontidae, commonly referred to as pufferfish or blowfish. This species is native to the eastern Mediterranean Sea, including the Aegean Sea, hence its name.





# THANK YOU!

“The project is financed by the European Union. The opinions and views expressed are solely the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the European Union or the entity granting support. The European Union and the grantor are not responsible for them.”