Ocean Journeys!

Type of activity: Exploring the wildlife on our coastline

Who is it for? All the family

Links to the Sustainable Development Goals: 14 – Life below water (find out more here
https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/)

What do I need?
- Curiosity
- Eye for detail as you explore the world around us
- Paper and colouring pens.

Introduction
World Ocean's Day is celebrated every year on 8 June. This is the perfect opportunity to learn about the oceans and seas, particularly those off the coast of Cumbria, and their importance in our lives, and to think about what we can do to protect them and keep them clean and healthy. And, of course it is a great excuse to dive into a sea creature activity - particularly if you focus on endangered species or other creatures under threat.

Here's how to...

1. Find out about the animals that live off the coast of Cumbria. What birds live on our cliffs, beaches and out in the Irish sea? Do you know what sharks your might find? And what mammals do you find raising their babies off our coast?

Here are some clues:

   a. Take a look at some of the species on this webpage
   https://www.livingseasnw.org.uk/wildlife-explorer/marine
   b. this webcam from Cumbria Wildlife Trust gives you a clue about some family life you might see on our coast https://www.livingseasnw.org.uk/marine-life/live-seal-cam

2. Try to visit the coast (and keep to the right social distance from other visitors) and spot some of the sea animals that live there. Some might be birds, or crustaceans (like hermit crabs)
3. When you get home, create a map of Cumbria's coast and along it draw and label the sea animals that you will find there.

What now?

Look at the animals that you've discovered that live on our coast and find out in which other oceans they also live. Maybe there are some that migrate from our shores to those of other countries. Or that go to a different ocean to feed or lay eggs, but come back to Cumbria's shores. Draw a map of the world's oceans and mark these journeys on it.