

Under the Sea Monthly Challenge

October 2026

Dive into the deep! Imagine you are a marine scientist exploring the deep ocean. It is dark, cold, and under enormous pressure - so animals that live there have special characteristics that help them survive.

But what is an adaptation? An adaptation is something a living thing (both plants and animals) has or does that helps it survive in the environment where it lives. For example, some deep-sea animals produce their own light, some have bodies suited to intense pressure from all the water pushing down on them from above and some have ways to find food in very dark water.

Adaptations happen over many generations - not because an animal decides it needs one. Scientists study how an animal's characteristics help it live in its environment.

Your challenge is to do some research about deep sea animals. Where do they live? What do they eat? What do they look like? Then design an imaginary animal that could survive in the deep ocean. Be creative - make your creature's adaptations have a job!

You will need to name your creature. Not a name like Fred or Ethel but a name saying what kind of deep sea animal it is. Figure out where it lives and what it eats. It must have at least two adaptations to help it survive. One must be physical adaptation (something it has) and one must be a behavioral adaptation (something it does.)

Then draw a picture of your deep sea animal. But don't let it just hang out in a space with nothing around it. Put its habitat (where it lives) in the picture, too!

Deadline to submit your Under the Sea report: Saturday, October 31, 2026 @ 5:00 PM MDT

Submit report at: https://bit.ly/UnderTheSea_Oct2026

You will receive your patch in 3 - 4 weeks after the end of challenge.

If you have any questions, please email info@gsdsw.org.

