

Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents: Canada's First MPA

Activity III - A Product of My Environment

Home is where you are safe from weather, harm, have food to eat, water to drink, and air or water to breathe. (or could that be something else?)

Listen to the following, then draw, describe with words, or create with clay the creature you would think best suited to survive, and survive well, in this place. If you finish early, you can then draw or describe with words what the environment looked like in your mind.

Visualization # 1 (Fantasy habitat)

It's bright. Really, really bright. The sun streams down in distinct lines of yellow, orange and gold. The golden colours touch on the jagged edges of the glittering surface of huge caverns and wrinkled walls, making angular patterns of the golden colours. From there, the yellow, orange and gold refracts off the surfaces at an angle and down to play on the fuzzy edges of the dense jungle of vine like plants, making them appear as golden soft edged, rope-like forms.

At the base of these plants, the ground is a mass of crumbly, lumpy sand. It mimics the golden tones of the bright light that shines down. In the patches where the sand is exposed, there are tiny clumps of spiny needle-like plant forms.

But suddenly a blackness claps shut on the place, and there is nothingness. No light, nothing to see or be seen in the total blackness.

It is either bright or completely black with darkness in this place. There is no twilight, only bright, with a searing intensity of golden colours, or dark, coming like a blanket suddenly thrown over the landscape.

There are things here to watch out for. Things that have eyes that can see in the blackness, things that jump out of the brightness with huge needle-like teeth and ravenous appetites, and things that are not what they appear.

The textures of this place range from the sharpness of angles and the lumpy crumbly texture of the ground, to the curves and winds of the vines and tiny spikey plant forms that eke out an existence where the vines are absent.

What adaptations would your creature have to live in this place? How would your creature avoid predators, find a mate, reproduce? Would your creature live only in one specific area of this place? Where?

Draw your creature, ensuring it has the best possibility of survival. Be prepared to point out features and adaptations.

If time allows, describe this place.