# Seagrass

for children

## What color are the blossoms (flowers) of seagrass? What do they look like?

There are lots of different species of seagrass, and the blossoms depend on the type of seagrass. Some flowers have thin white petals; others can have short, light blue petals.



# What does seagrass fruit look like?

Similarly to how blossoms vary by species, different types of seagrass produce different fruits. They are generally green and very small, and some are round while others are narrow and long.

## Do people eat seagrass?

Some people do, but seagrass mainly supports

# Do people use seagrass for anything?

Seagrasses are used for lots of things and are extremely beneficial to humans. Seagrass can be used to make mats, to feed land animals such as cows and goats, and as a fertilizer in farming. Seagrasses also provide a number of ecosystem services including storing carbon (to combat climate change) and aiding in fisheries production (many marine animals use seagrass beds for breeding, for bringing up their young, and as feeding grounds).

numerous fish that in turn help feed humans.

## Can seagrass be replanted?

Yes, healthy seagrass seedlings can be moved from one place to another ("transplantation") or seagrass seeds can be planted in the sand ("seeding").



### Can seagrass regrow again after the beds have been destroyed?

Yes, pieces of seagrass with roots can regrow in clean water conditions even after the beds have been destroyed. Seagrass is also able to grow from seeds.

# What are the threats to seagrass?

Many human activities can damage seagrass beds, including (1) destructive fishing habits (such as dragging nets along the ocean floor and dropping anchors in seagrass beds), (2) development of coastal areas, and (3) pollution. You should always put your rubbish in a bin and recycle as much as you can to help protect the marine environment.

## Are there other animals that depend on seagrass?

Yes, many animals depend on seagrasses, including green turtles, seahorses, cuttlefish, parrotfish and pipefish. Green turtles can eat up to two kilograms of seagrass leaves in one day.









