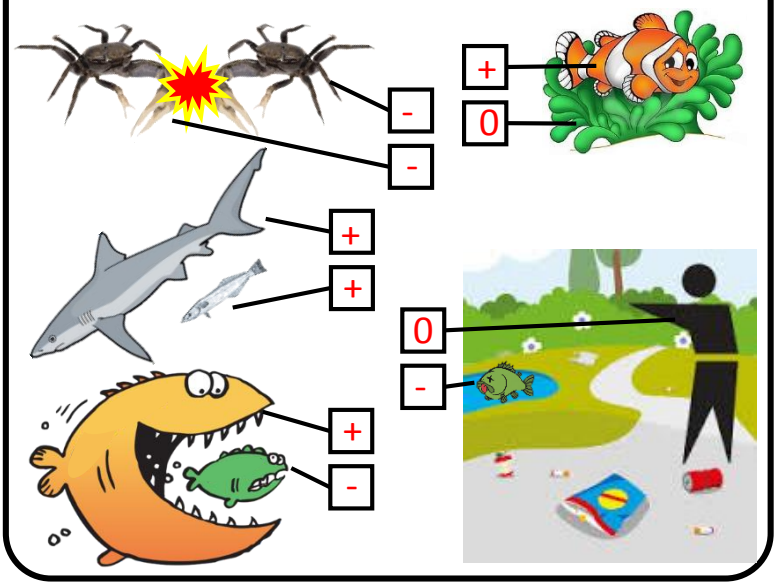
GRADE SIX
SELF-GUIDED WORKSHEET

Label interaction POSITIVE (+), NEGATIVE (-) or NEUTRAL (0) for each animal.



How many shark species did you see today? 9 are easy to find. There are 11 (not including eggs).

What *variables* in the exhibits might animals be sensitive to?

Light – flash from cameras, different light than natural habitat (intensity and duration of day)

Sound – music, talking, vibrations made from sound

Movement – guest splashing the water, current moves differently at the aquarium than the wild

Find and name two endangered species. What happens to an ecosystem when extinctions occur?

Green Sea Turtle, Green Sawfish.

When extinction occurs the ecosystem connections (predator/prey, territory, etc.) have to be reestablished because the connections between the extinct species and the other species are no longer present. And if the ecosystem cannot re-stabilize, the ecosystem will collapse and all the other animals will also go extinct.

Which exhibit has the highest *biodiversity*? Why does having a lot of *biodiversity* make a *habitat* more stable?

Rainbow Reef (or Living Coral).

Lots of biodiversity makes a habitat more stable because there are more connections between the species. Therefore, if one species goes extinct there are more available food resources and predators (control the population of prey) that will help stabilize the ecosystem afterwards.

CONTINUE ON OTHER SIDE →

Name an animal that can detect electricity. How can they do this and why?

Sharks and stingrays. They have electroreceptors (electricity sensors) and chemoreceptors (chemical sensors, such as smell and taste) these are called ampullae of Lorenzini. They are located in pores near their mouth. These sensors are used to sense their food hiding under the sand or struggling further away.

What do humans do that negatively affects *biodiversity*? What can you do to help?

Litter, pollute – To help we can reduce the amount of plastic we use which also reduces the impact of litter and other pollutants used to make plastic.

Eating non-sustainable seafood – Choose a sustainable sea food choice, one where we don't negatively impact the wild population, such as choosing Ocean Wise only food.

Eating exotic food – Eating locally benefits the local community and saves energy (the food is usually better too).

Draw a picture of your favourite ecosystem you saw at the Aquarium today.

STUDENT NAME: _____