

# Pacific Pals Playground

Bertrand has written a letter just for YOU about California Moray Eels. But **HOLD YOUR FINS!** The water has washed some of the words away!

Can you fill in the missing parts of his letter with the words below?

## Water

A clear liquid you drink when you're thirsty. It also makes up lakes, rivers and oceans.

## Giant Kelp

A type of seaweed that creates a forest like habitat underwater on the California coast.

## Rostrum

Long nose area on an animal. It's used for smelling and sometimes grabbing food.

## Mouth

An opening on the face that is used to eat, talk and smile.

## Nocturnal

Being awake and active during the night instead of the day.

## Shrimp

A small crustacean with lots of legs and a curly body.

## Learn

Gathering new information or skills into your brain.

## Permanent

Something that stays the same and doesn't go away.

## Operculum

A special covering that most fish have on their gills.

## Otter

A playful, furry mammal that eats seafood and lives in the water.

## Caves

Secret rooms in the ground made by nature.

## Green

A color that can be made when you mix yellow and blue.



Hey Reader,

You ever seen a grouchy g r e \_ \_ \_ noodle? Well, you're talkin' to one! It's me, Bertrand the California moray eel. We morays might look like snakes, but we're actually fish. Bet ya didn't see that comin'!

Now, you're probably thinkin', "why does Bertrand always look like he's grinnin' at the world's funniest joke?" Here's the scoop: I can't stop smiling! I gotta have my m o u \_ \_ \_ open all the time. I don't have a fancy o p e \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ like most fish. No siree! I have to flap my jaws to pull w a t \_ \_ \_ into my gills to breathe. Some folks think my p e r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ smile makes me look grumpy, but really, I'm just a bashful eel tryin' to catch his breath. Besides, having a cranky face isn't the worst. It keeps folks out of my personal space y'know?

Where can you find me? Well, you ever built a fort out of blankets and pillows? Cozy, right? Well I live in an underwater version of that, except my fort is a rocky reef in a G i a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ forest. I'm talkin' the creme de la creme of rock c a v \_ \_ \_ and snug crannies on the ocean floor. Once I tuck in for the day, I'm not poking my r o s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ out till night. Yup, I'm n o c \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. I eat my meals in the moonlight.

Speaking of meals, I hear Elsie O t t \_ \_ \_ makes a delicious s h r \_ \_ \_ \_ pizza and I'm thinking of ordering one tonight. I may not see her coming to the door, given my poor eyesight, but with my powerful sniffer - I'll smell that pizza a mile away!

Anywho, thanks for taking the time to l e a \_ \_ \_ about the life of a moray eel. Stay cool and remember to keep smilin' just like us eels!

Best Fishes,  
Your Pal Bertrand