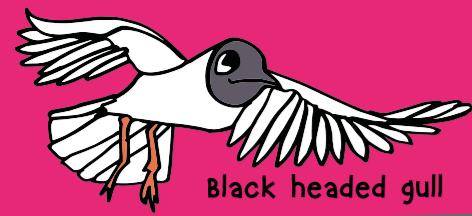
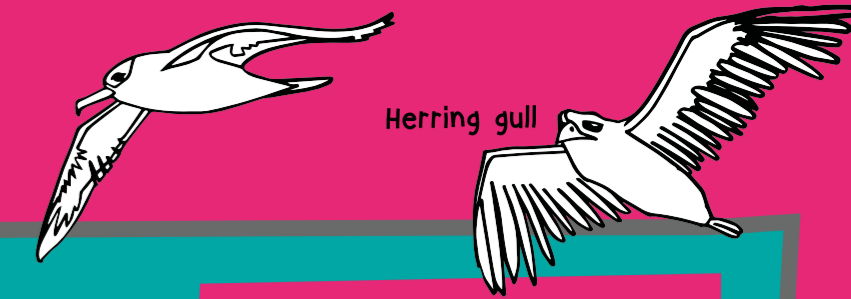


Buck the Barnacle of Blackpool



Black headed gull



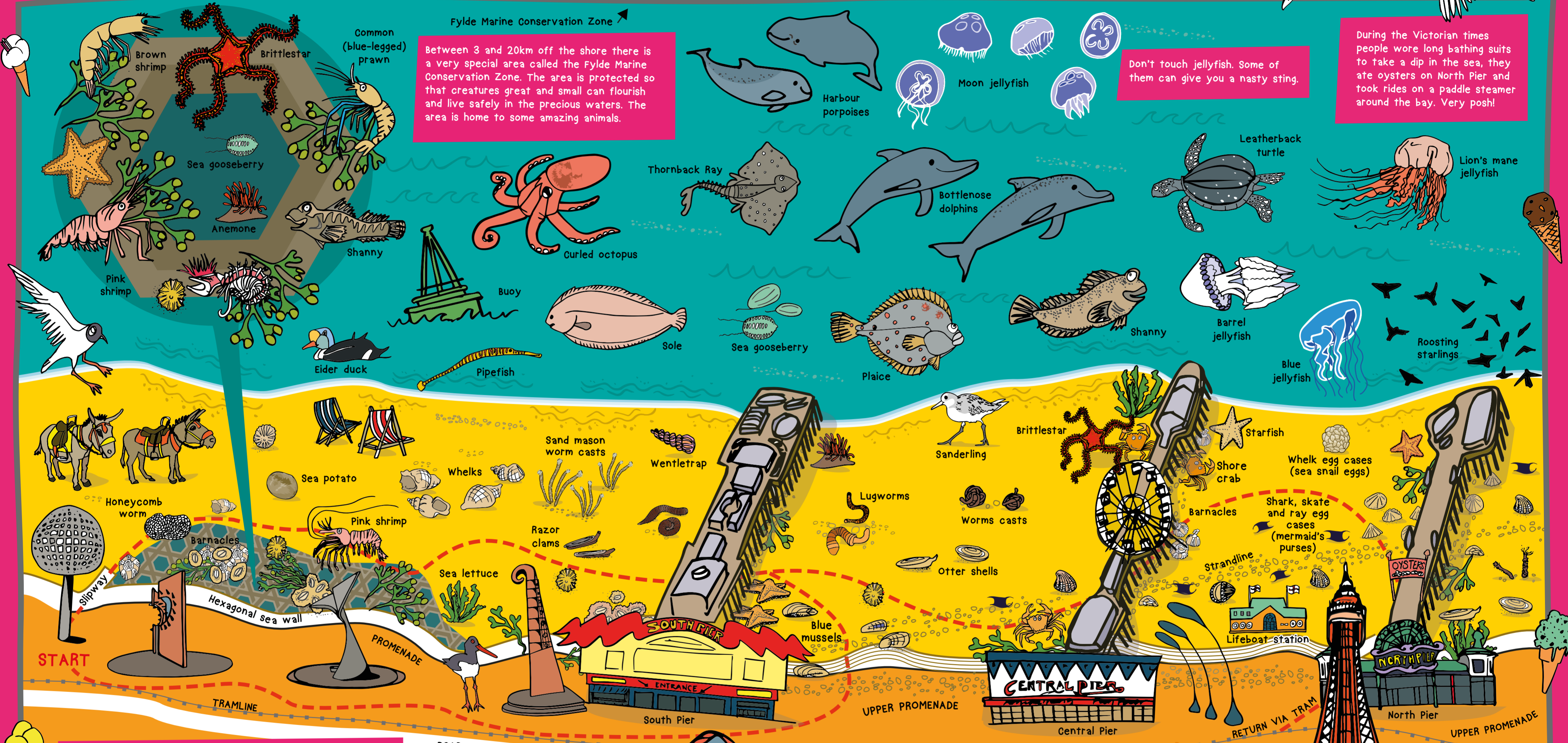
Herring gull

Fylde Marine Conservation Zone

Between 3 and 20km off the shore there is a very special area called the Fylde Marine Conservation Zone. The area is protected so that creatures great and small can flourish and live safely in the precious waters. The area is home to some amazing animals.

Don't touch jellyfish. Some of them can give you a nasty sting.

During the Victorian times people wore long bathing suits to take a dip in the sea, they ate oysters on North Pier and took rides on a paddle steamer around the bay. Very posh!



Barnacles are known to be one of the laziest creatures on earth; they don't even move for most of their life. They usually remain attached to rocks, ships, whales or pier posts and feed by putting their feet in the water to catch food. So really they stand on their heads for nearly all of their life!

You can use a sieve or net to find out which secretive creatures live in the hexagonal rock pools. Make sure you dip gently as some of the creatures are very delicate, and always rinse your net at the end as tiny beasties might be hiding in there! To find out about organised local events visit www.livingseasnw.org.uk/events.



Thousands of years ago the land would have looked very different. There were once vast oak forests and marshland where giant elk roamed. A British tribe called the Setantii (dwellers in the water) called this area home.

The Solaris Centre used to be the old winter gardens where Victorians could sit out of the chilly wind and enjoy the sunshine. There is a lovely cafe there now and a play area around the back.

Shell-building creatures are called molluscs, and the part of their body that builds the shell is called the 'mantle'. They use proteins to make it very strong and fill it in with calcium carbonate, just like your bones!

The colour of the shell depends on what the mollusc has eaten. Some seashells are not home to molluscs any more, but are used as homes for hermit crabs. Birds sometimes use shells to build their nests.

Disclaimer
Tale trails are intended as a guide only. When exploring coastal areas, please take care. Be aware of fast-rising tides, sticky mudflats, quicksand, slippery rocks, seawalls, seaweeds and slipways. Watch out for the safety chains near the slipways and check the local tide times before visiting the beach. Please stick to the coastal code, leave only footprints, take only photographs. Watch out for areas of unstable sands and fast moving tides.

Discover more at www.taletrails.co.uk
Map illustration and design by www.studiokgb.co.uk
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