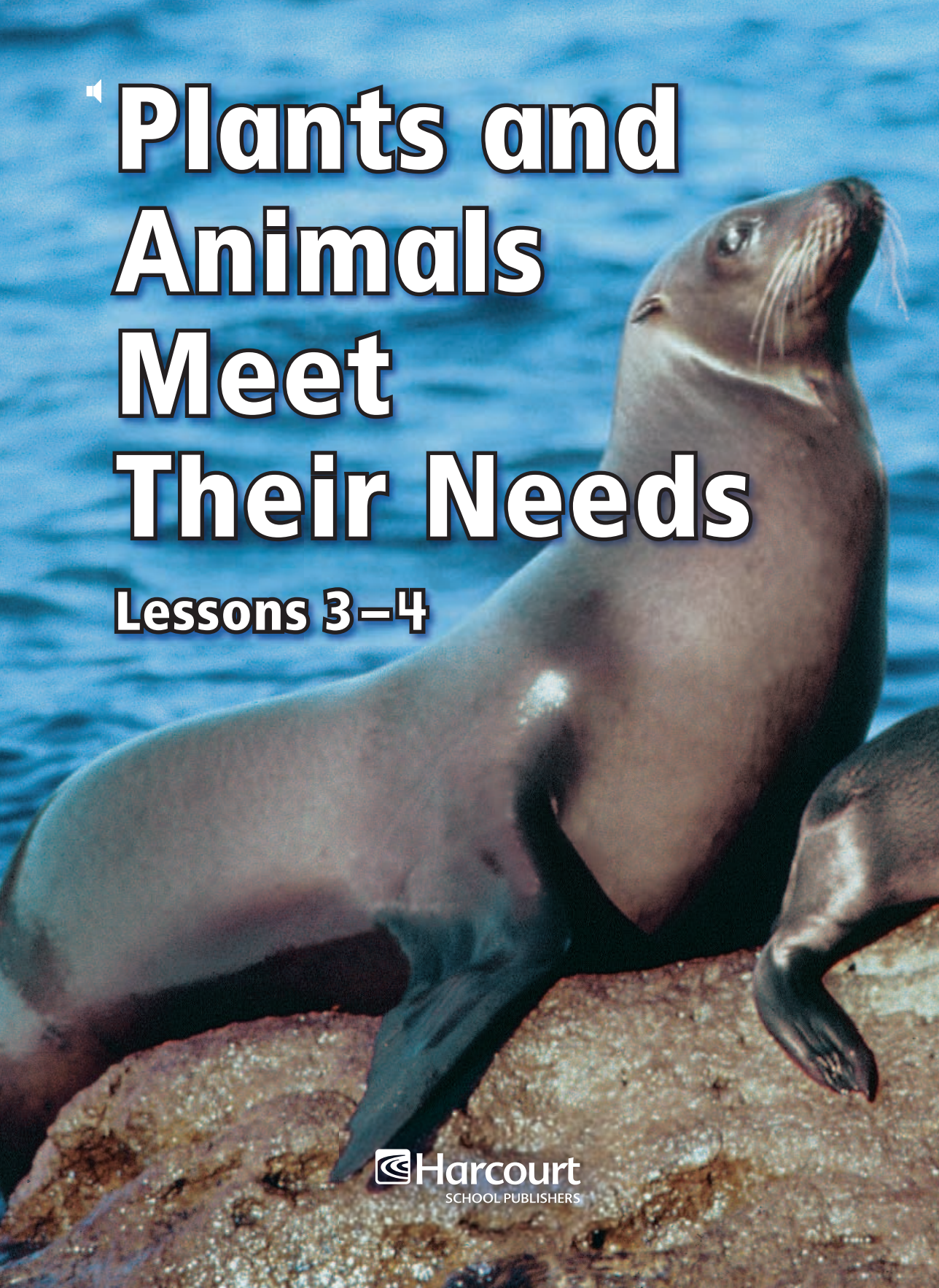


A large seal, likely a California sea lion, is resting on a wet, brown rock in the ocean. The seal is looking up and to the right, with its head tilted back. Its fur is dark brown and wet, reflecting light. The background is a deep blue ocean with white-capped waves.

Plants and Animals Meet Their Needs

Lessons 3–4

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Plants and Animals Meet Their Needs

Lessons 3–4

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Plants Change over Time

- Plants have changed over time.
- The changes help them live and grow.

Water lily leaves float to get the sunlight they need.

- Plants live in different places.
- Each meets its needs where it lives.

The thick leaves of this jade plant store water.



Animals Change over Time

- Animals also have changed over time.
- The changes help them live and grow.

A large blue whale is shown swimming underwater in clear blue water. The whale is oriented vertically, with its head pointing upwards towards the surface. Its thick, wrinkled skin and large, dark eye are visible. The whale's long, dark tail is at the bottom of the frame. The water is a vibrant blue, and some light rays are visible near the surface.

Thick skin helps a whale stay warm in cold water.

- ▣ Animals live in different places.
- ▣ Each meets its needs where it lives.

▣ **The color of
a flounder
helps it hide.**

Forest Plants

- Forest trees get a lot of rain and light.
- The rain and light help them grow tall.





▶ wildflowers

- ▶ Other plants grow on the forest floor.
- ▶ They need less light than trees do.

Forest Animals

Many animals live in forests.



This eagle can find food from high in the air.

They all can meet their needs there.

These animals have body parts that help them find food, water, and shelter in the forest.



Desert Plants

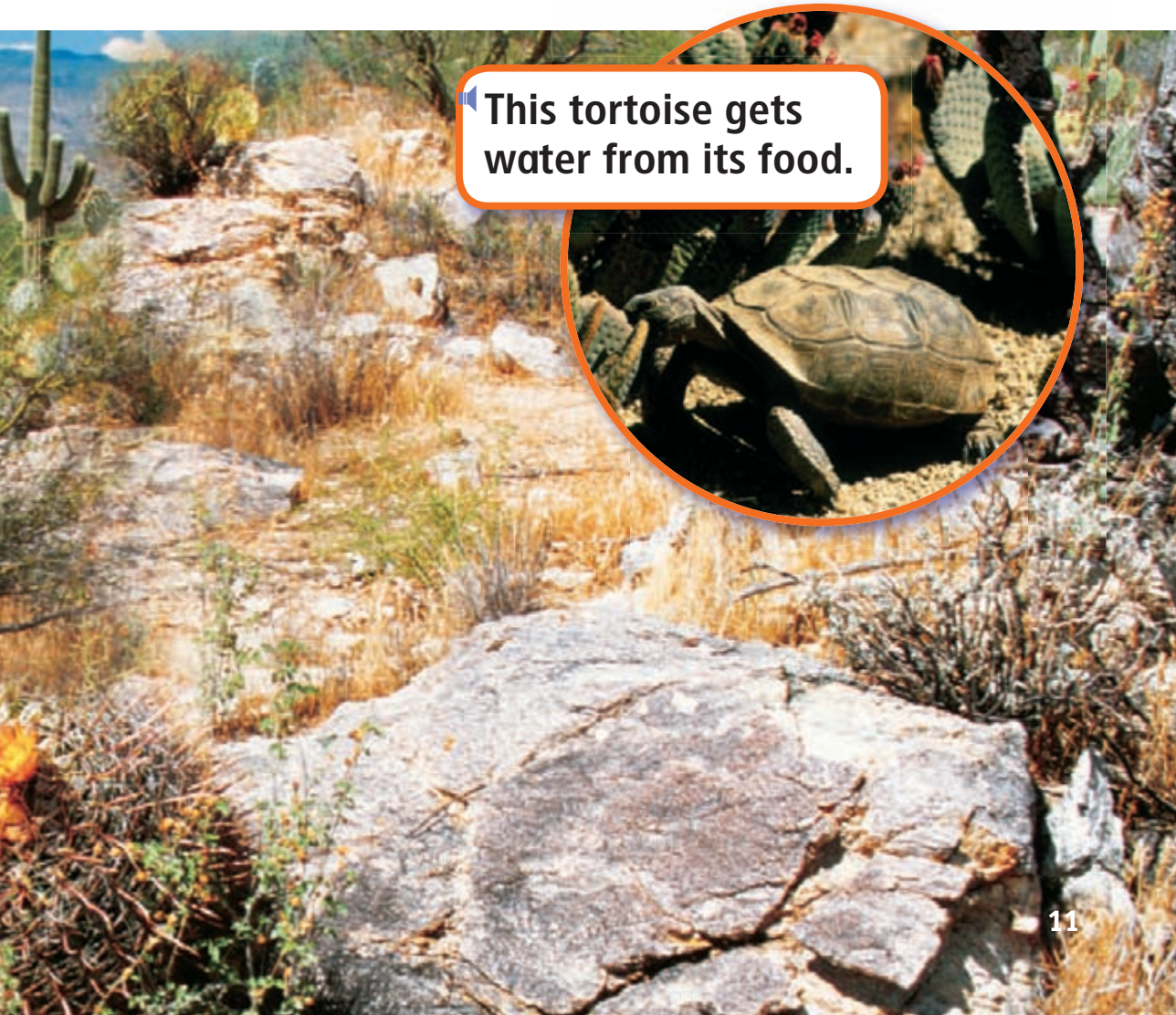
- ▶ A desert gets very little rain.
- ▶ Desert plants need very little water.

A photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there is a large, gnarled tree with reddish-brown bark and green foliage. To the left, a cactus is visible, with a circular inset showing a close-up of its thick, spiny stem and red flowers. The background shows a dry, rocky hillside under a clear blue sky.

▶ The thick stem of this cactus stores water.

Desert Animals

- Desert animals must have water.
- They also need to stay cool.

A large tortoise is shown in a desert environment, surrounded by rocks and sparse vegetation. A speech bubble points to the tortoise, indicating it gets water from its food.

This tortoise gets water from its food.

Oceans

 Kelp grows in the ocean.



 sea otter

 stingray

 sea lion

- ▶ Many ocean animals live near food.
- ▶ Others swim far to find food.



▶ kelp

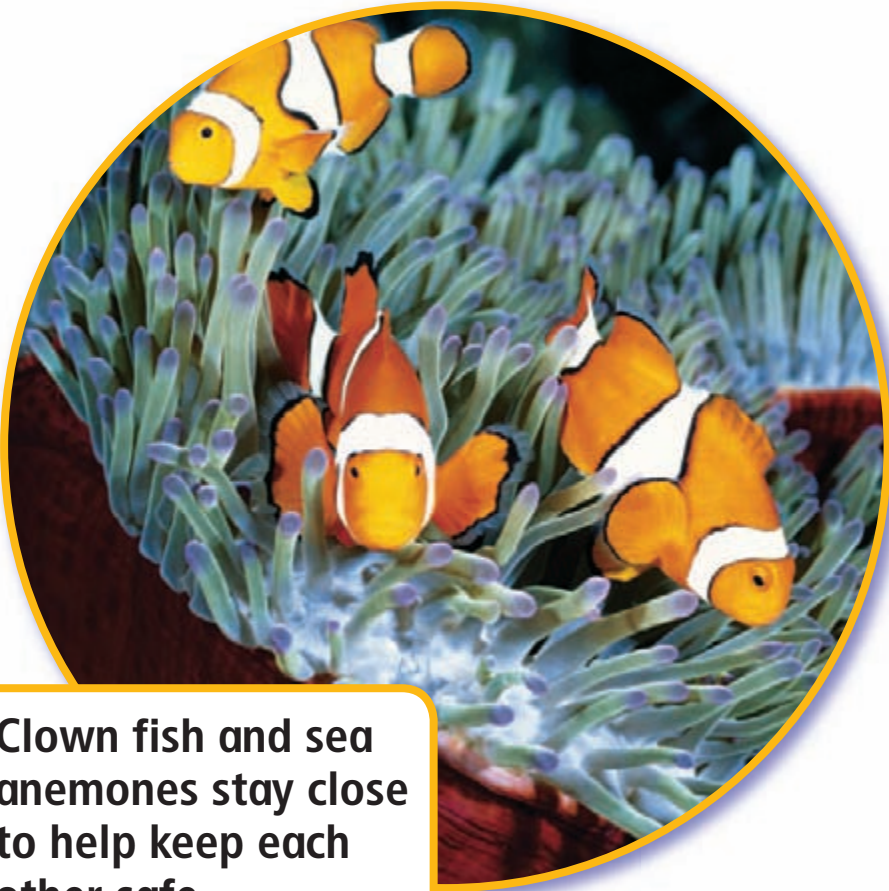
▶ sea turtle

Living Together



Many birds build nests in trees.

- Plants and animals live together.
- Some animals use plants for shelter.



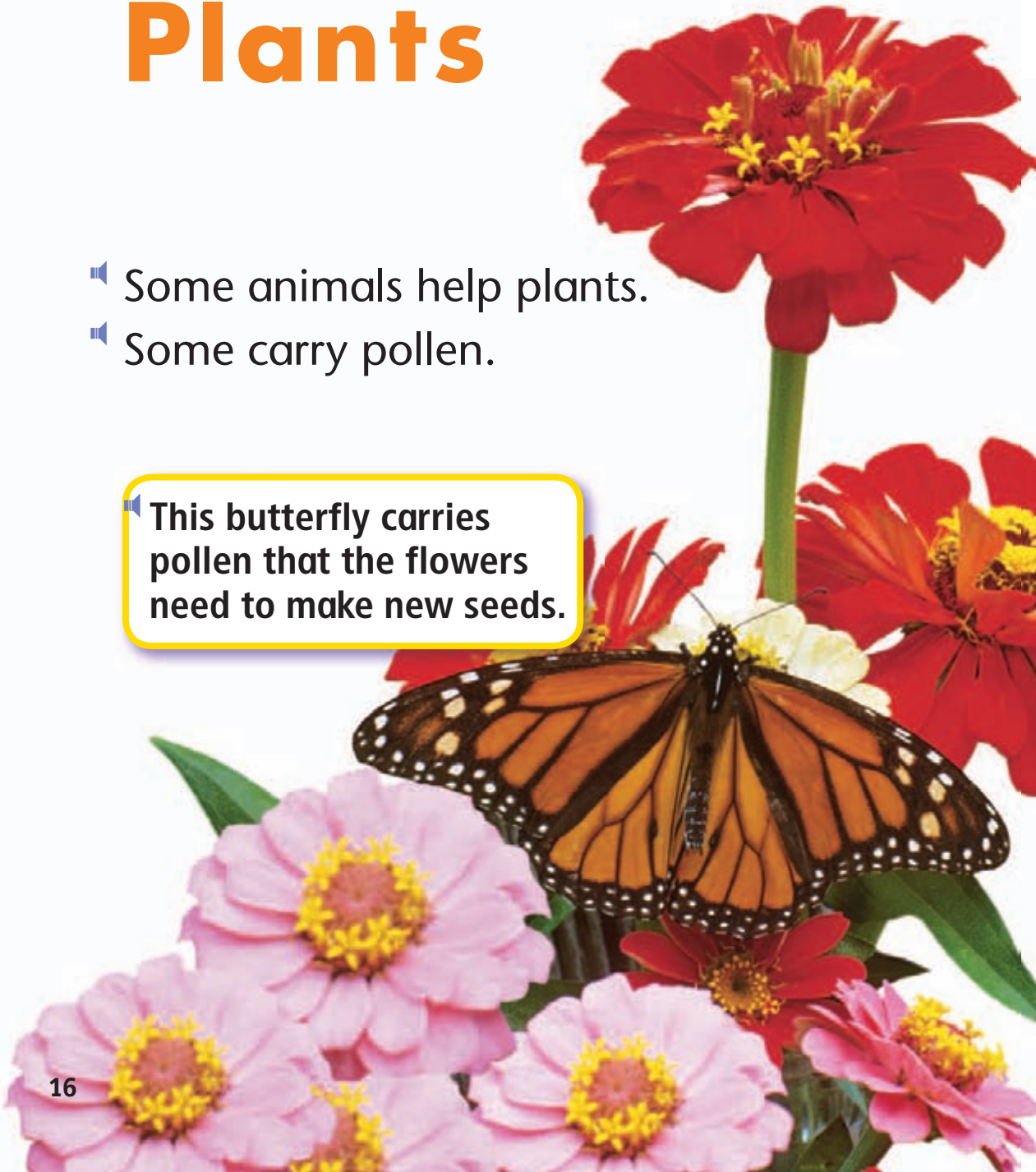
Clown fish and sea anemones stay close to help keep each other safe.

Some animals use other animals.

Animals Help Plants

- Some animals help plants.
- Some carry pollen.

This butterfly carries pollen that the flowers need to make new seeds.



- Some carry seeds to new places.
- The seeds may grow into new plants.



squirrel carrying seeds

Food Chains

- Animals eat plants or other animals.
- A food chain shows what animals eat.

Grass uses sunlight to make food.





- ▶ **Vocabulary**
- ▶ plants, p. 2
- ▶ animals, p. 4
- ▶ forest, p. 6
- ▶ desert, p. 10
- ▶ ocean, p. 12
- ▶ nest, p. 14
- ▶ pollen, p. 16
- ▶ food chain, p. 18

Think About the Reading

-  **1.** What more do you want to learn about the places where plants and animals live?
-  **2.** What can you do to find out more?

Hands-On Activity

-  **1.** Think about the food you eat.
-  **2.** Draw a food chain that shows how you and the food are linked.

School-Home Connection

-  Tell a family member what you have read about the ways plants and animals use each other. Talk with the family member about the ways people use plants and animals.