

# SEA CUCUMBERS ARE IMPORTANT CLEANERS OF SANDY ENVIRONMENTS

"Synaptid" sea cucumbers clean the surface of the sand with their feeding arms

feeding arms



Some sea cucumbers put oxygen into the sand by digging, and this helps shellfish live beneath the surface



Prickly red fish (Sucudrau)

Black and brown teat fish (Sucuwalu)



Sand Fish (buried during the day, comes out at night)



Valuable Beche-de-mer Species



Sand producing seaweeds Halimeda



Worm tunnels also help put oxygen deep into the sand

Where there are few sea cucumbers, the sand is dark and smelly just under the surface. With less oxygen, few things can live inside the sand