

## Activity 3: A Virtual Transect Teachers Guide

### Answers to Discussion Questions:

1. Do more animals and plants occur in sand or over the rock?

*More animals and plants are likely to occur over rock because there is something solid for them to attach to*

2. Why would this be likely?

*Sand is constantly moving and would bury sessile (non-moving) species.*

3. What difficulties did you find in observing the video?

*The picture is not high quality and tends to move around a lot as it is being controlled from a boat on the surface.*

4. How might this technique be used to explore deep ocean environments?

*Cameras are one of the few affordable means to be able to collect information from deep sea environments without risking human life. Cameras are lowered on cables of enormous lengths to gain images of the sea floor.*

*(For some good examples of deep sea imagery visit <http://www.newscientist.com/channel/earth/deep-sea> )*

