BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Media English 媒体英语

Sea creatures confused by harbour lights
海洋生物被港口人工照明搞的晕头转向

- *关于台词的备注：*
  请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。
- *请注意：中文文字内容只提供簡體版*

一项发表在皇家学会报告《生物学报》期刊的研究称海港的人工照明诱使海洋生物靠近并从而损害停靠的船舶。以下是 Rebecca Morelle 的报道。

With harbours operating around the clock, night time lighting is an essential **feature** for the **shipping industry**. But this study suggests it could have costly consequences.

Scientists at the University of Exeter in the UK say that **artificial illumination** is confusing some small **clinging** sea creatures. Some of these, such as keel worms, can cause damage when they attach to ships' **hulls** - and the bright lights seem to be **drawing them in**.

An **influx** of these animals can slow down boats and they are expensive to remove.

The light pollution is also having an effect on **shade-loving** sea creatures such as sponges, causing them to seek a home in darker waters.

The researchers are concerned that this is **disrupting** the delicate balance of these marine communities.

Questions

1. Why should the shipping industry be concerned about the effect of lights on sea creatures?
2. Apart from causing damage, what other effect do the sea creatures have on ships?
3. What does artificial lighting do to sea sponges?
4. Which word in the text means 'related to the sea'?

Vocabulary and definitions

feature	特点
shipping industry	航运业
artificial illumination	人工照明
clinging	吸附的，有黏性的
hulls	船体，船身
drawing them in	将它们引入
influx	（名词）涌入，汇集
shade-loving	喜阴的
disrupting	（动名词）扰乱了

Answers to the questions:

1. Why should the shipping industry be concerned about the effect of lights on sea creatures?
   Answer: Because it makes them attach to ships, which causes damage.

2. Apart from causing damage, what other effect do the sea creatures have on ships?
   Answer: They slow down ships.

3. What does artificial lighting do to sea sponges?
   Answer: It makes them seek darker waters elsewhere.

4. Which word in the text means 'related to the sea'?
   Answer: Marine.