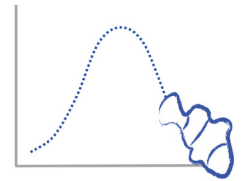


Name: _____ Date: _____

Healthy Oceans: Sustainable Seafood

Math and Computational Challenges



1. Imagine that a clam accumulates one unit of mercury in its body from the water it lives in. How many units of mercury would a stingray accumulate if it eats 50 clams a day for 10 years, assuming no mercury is lost between the clams and stingray?

2. (a) How much mercury would a shark accumulate in a year if it eats 5 of the stingrays from the previous problem every month?

(b) What about a human that consumes an entire 15-year old shark?

(c) Is the build-up of mercury through this food chain linear? Why or why not?

3. Mercury is toxic to humans. Using what you learned from this problem, explain why people might want to 'eat lower on the food chain.'

