



Scientific ocean drilling can access an array of potential habitats deep beneath the seafloor. It has provided vital samples that have yielded microbes, illuminating the features and strategies that enable deep life to persist in these diverse geologic habitats. *Illustration by Geo Prose, inspired by Figure 4 in D'Hondt et al. (2019), <https://doi.org/10.5670/oceanog.2019.146>. Photo credits: (left) Deep sediments. From Figure 2 in Inagaki et al. (2015), <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aaa6882>. (middle) Young oceanic crust. From Figure 3 in Ramirez et al. (2019), <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2019.01983>. (right) Old oceanic crust. Courtesy of Jason Sylvan, Texas A&M University*