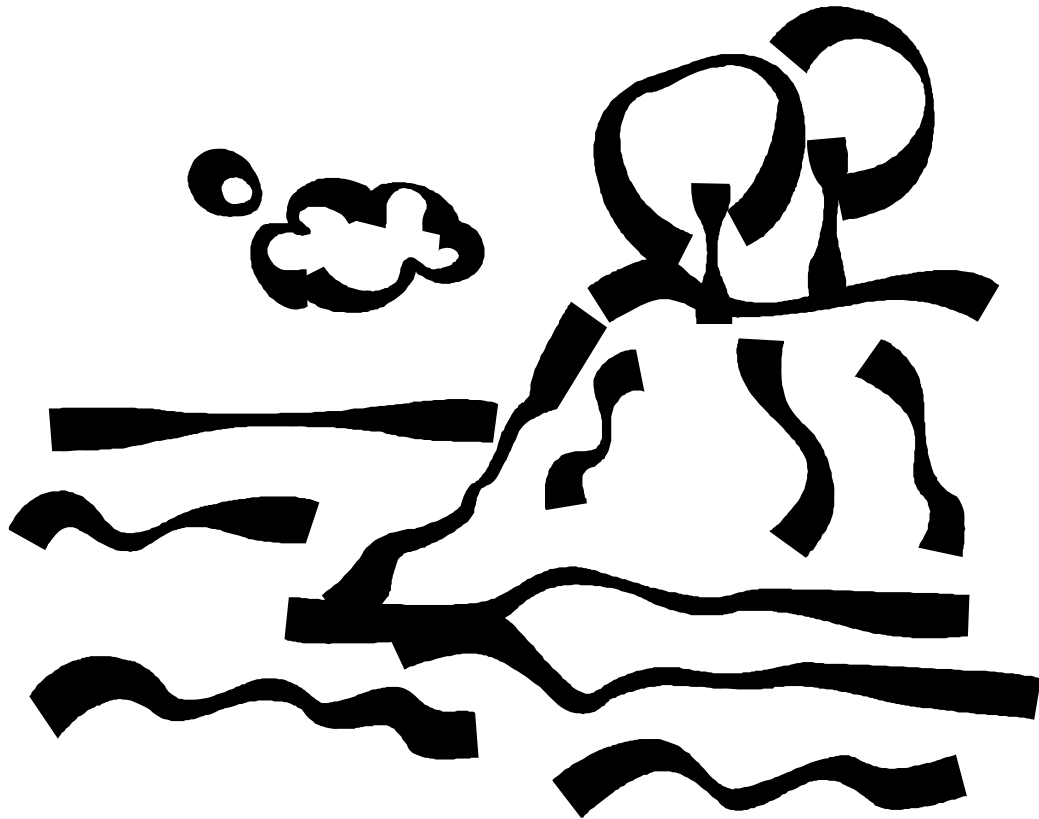


# My Book of Ocean Animals



Captain \_\_\_\_\_  
#1 Fisherman

# Crabs

Crabs are 10-legged animals that walk sideways. There are almost 5,000 different species of crabs; about 4,500 are true crabs, plus about 500 are [hermit crabs](#) (hermit crabs don't have a very hard shell and use other animals' old shells for protection). Most crabs live in the oceans, but many, like the robber crab, live on land.



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# Clams

Clams are animals that burrow under the sea floor. They are bivalves, mollusks that have two shells that protect a soft body. There are over 15,000 different species of clams worldwide. The biggest clam is the Giant Clam, *Tridacna gigas*; it is up to 4.8 feet (1.5 m) long and weighs up to 550 pounds (250 kg). Most clams are only a few inches long. Clams come in many colors, including shades of brown, red-brown, yellow, cream, etc. The two shells are attached by a muscular hinge (the adductor muscle). When a clam is threatened, most clams will pull their soft body into the shells and close the shells tightly for protection. The foot is used to burrow into the sand. Clams use their tube-like siphon to draw in water, from which they extract oxygen and filter plankton (tiny plants that they eat).



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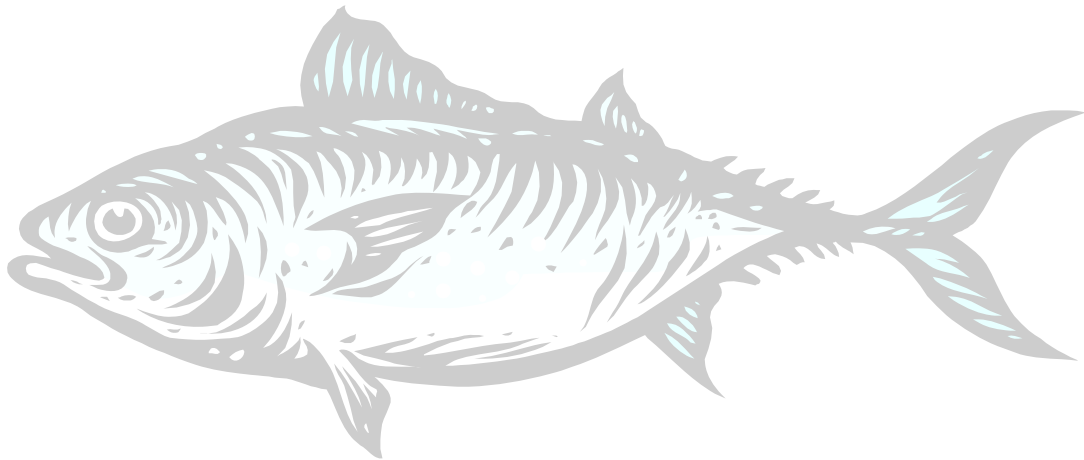
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# Fish

Fish are vertebrate animals (they have a backbone) that live in water, have streamlined, muscular bodies, and are cold-blooded. Most fish breathe using gills.



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# Jellyfish

Jellyfish are fish-eating animals that float in the sea - only a few jellyfish live in fresh water. They have soft bodies and long, stinging, poisonous tentacles that they use to catch fish. Venom is sent out through stinging cells called nematocysts. A jellyfish is 98% water. There are many types of jellyfish. The smallest jellyfish are just a few inches across. The largest jellyfish is the lion's mane (*Cyanea capillata*), whose body can be over 3 feet (1 m) across, with much longer tentacles. Some jellyfish glow in the dark. Some of the deadliest jellies are tiny and venomous sting of these jellyfish can kill a person.



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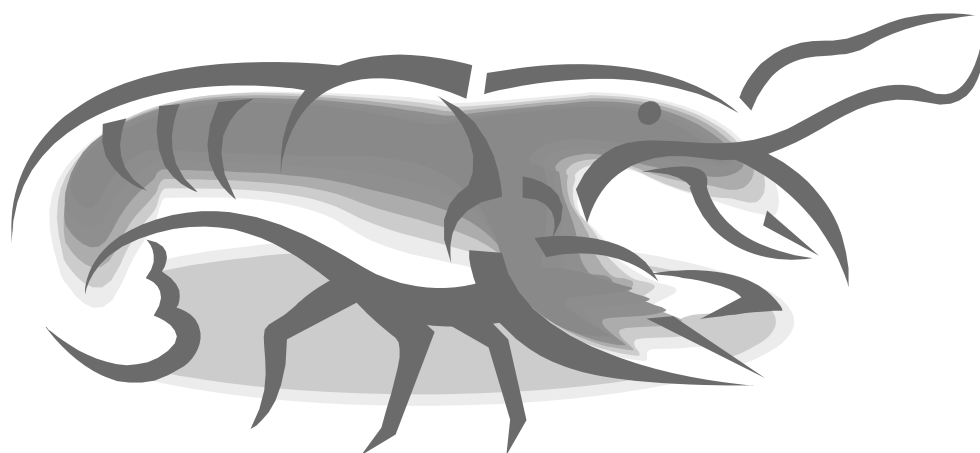
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# Lobsters

Lobsters are animals that have a tough shell and live on the ocean floor. There are many different types of lobsters, including the Maine (or American) lobster (an aggressive lobster with large front claws), the spiny lobster, and crayfish. Lobsters are invertebrates, animals without a backbone. Lobsters are cold-blooded; their body temperature depends on the temperature of the water.



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# Octopus

The word octopus means "eight feet." Octopuses are solitary, eight-armed animals that live on the ocean floor. There are over 100 different species of octopuses. The Giant Octopus is the biggest octopus. This huge [mollusk](#) is up to 23 ft from arm tip to arm tip, weighing up to 400 pounds. The smallest is the Californian octopus, which is only 3/8 inch long.



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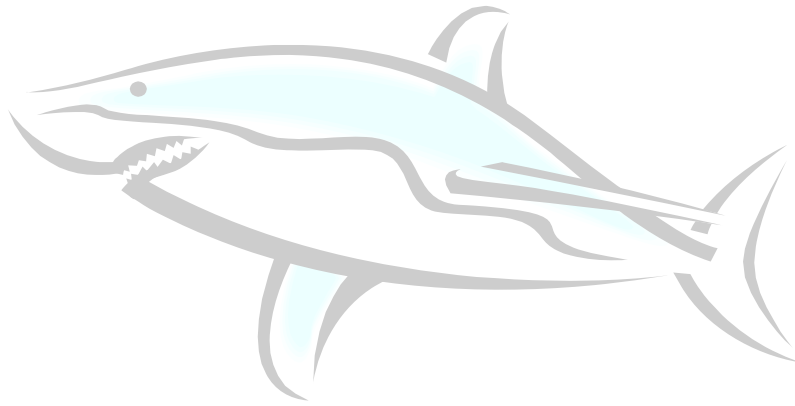
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# Sharks

Sharks are much-feared, streamlined swimmers and ferocious predators with 3,000 teeth at any one time.



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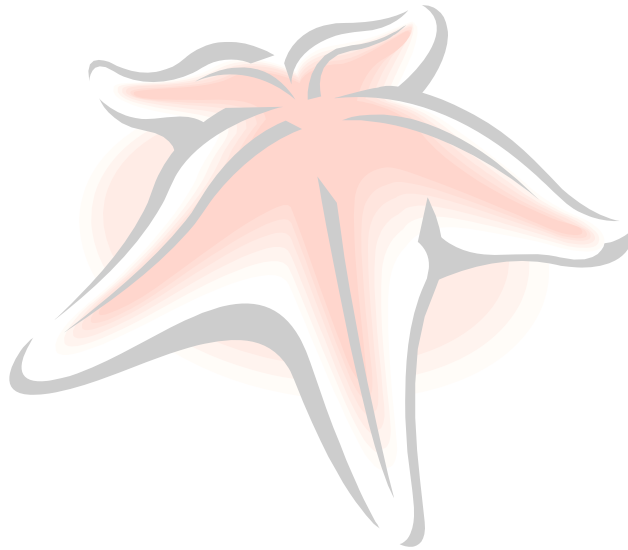
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# Starfish

Sea stars (also known as starfish) are spiny, hard-skinned animals that live on the rocky sea floor. These [invertebrates](#) are NOT fish; they are [echinoderms](#). Sea stars move very slowly along the sea bed, using hundreds of tiny tube feet. There are over 2,000 different species of sea stars worldwide.



s t a r f i s h

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# Whales

The Orca (commonly known as the Killer Whale) is a toothed whale, the largest member of the dolphin family. Orcas live in small, close-knit, life-long pods. Whales are mammals and have babies that are live (not hatched from eggs).



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