

Title: Life by the Sea

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

stalk	tide	fossils	spines	species
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1. We know about dinosaurs because we have found their fossils.
2. I think the waves on the beach are bigger at high tide.
3. There are several species of monkeys on this island.
4. Be careful not to get stuck by that animal's spines.
5. That crab is sticking its stalks up from the water.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Gulls usually rest on the water. T / F
2. Crabs that live on land go back to the water to lay their eggs. T / F
3. Every time a crab molts, it gets bigger. T / F
4. Hermit crabs do not live in holes. T / F
5. Tide pools sometimes contain sea urchins. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. (Most / Some) crabs live underwater.
2. A crab's front two legs are called (hands / claws).
3. Ghost crabs change (size / color) depending on the type of beach they are on.
4. Because of fossils, we know horseshoe crabs are very (old / smart).
5. Horseshoe crabs have (five / six) pairs of legs.

C. Choose the best answer.

1. Which kind of animal was NOT mentioned in the first chapter?

- a. Gulls
- b. Fish
- c. Pelicans
- d. Sea urchins

2. What do baby crabs do several times a year?

- a. They break out of their old skin.
- b. They walk onto dry land.
- c. They find a place to lay eggs.
- d. They go back into the water.

3. What special thing can crabs do with their eyes?

- a. See underwater
- b. See in the dark
- c. See all the way around
- d. See through sand

4. How do male fiddler crabs attract females?

- a. By digging deep holes in the sand
- b. By changing color to match the sand
- c. By waving their biggest claw
- d. By walking around during the day

5. What is the name of the body part on sea stars that helps them move?

- a. Legs
- b. Arms
- c. Eye stalks
- d. Tube feet

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

molt	dive	tide pools	pinch	claws
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Beaches are full of life. There are many kinds of birds, like gulls and pelicans. Pelicans fly high in the sky and then dive when they see food. While everyone knows animals live underwater, not everyone knows they live under the sand, too. Crabs mostly live in the water, but some live on land. Many of them dig holes in the sand to live in. A young crab might molt several times the first year it's alive. It then grows new skin that hardens and becomes a shell. There are many different kinds of crabs. However, all crabs have shells, ten legs, and claws. Other animals we call crabs really aren't. Two examples are horseshoe crabs and hermit crabs. Hermit crabs don't grow their own shells. But they do still have small claws that can pinch. Other beach animals, like sea stars, live in tide pools. They form when water comes in and out from the sea. Birds can find lots of things to eat in them.