

Your text for this week is a non-fiction text about rock pools. Read the text below carefully and then answer the following questions about it. Remember to use all of the techniques we used in school to help you.

5 ROCK POOLS

Have you ever wanted to be an explorer? Would you like to study fascinating creatures in their natural habitat? Next time you have a chance to go to the beach, look at the tiny oceans that exist in rock pools.

Rock pools are formed when the sea fills spaces between rocks and forms small pools. These become home for some very adaptable sea creatures. They have to suit life underwater, when the tide is in, and survive for a while on dry rocks, when the tide is out.

Limpets, barnacles, mussels, starfish and crabs can all live in rock pools.

Limpets and barnacles are tiny shellfish that cling to rocks. All you can see of them are their shells, so they sometimes look like part of the rocks themselves. They move over the surface of the rocks eating the tiny plants on them. They move so slowly, though, that you'll never notice!

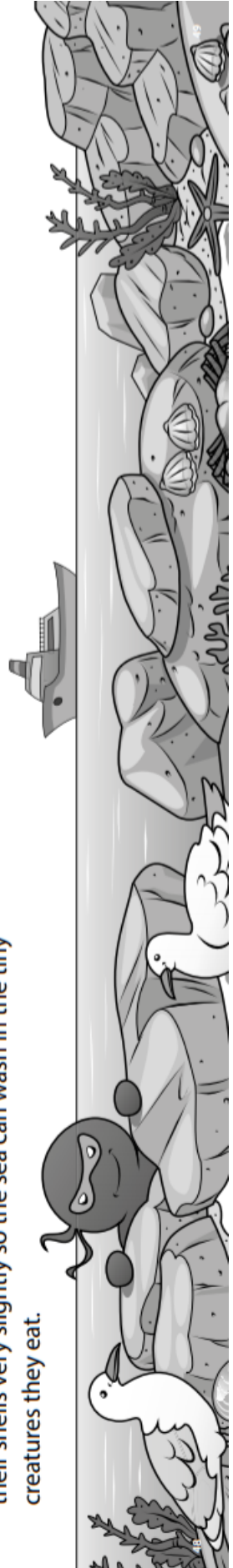
Mussels are also shellfish. They have smooth, dark shells – but sometimes barnacles cling to them, too! Mussels open their shells very slightly so the sea can wash in the tiny creatures they eat.

Starfish have soft bodies covered in tiny, hard spines. They look like stars because of the way their legs are spread out. Most starfish have five or six legs, but some kinds have up to 40!

Crabs scuttle sideways to get around. They have thick shells that cover their soft bodies, eight legs and two pincers. They use their pincers to crack open shellfish to eat. Sometimes they catch small fish, too. You may even see a hermit crab in a rock pool. These crabs find and move into different shells as they grow.

Despite their protective shells, creatures in rock pools are in danger from gulls and other sea birds. Gulls are predators in this environment. They can swoop down quickly on crabs and smash their shells against rocks. Their strong beaks can peck at shellfish to reach the soft creatures inside.

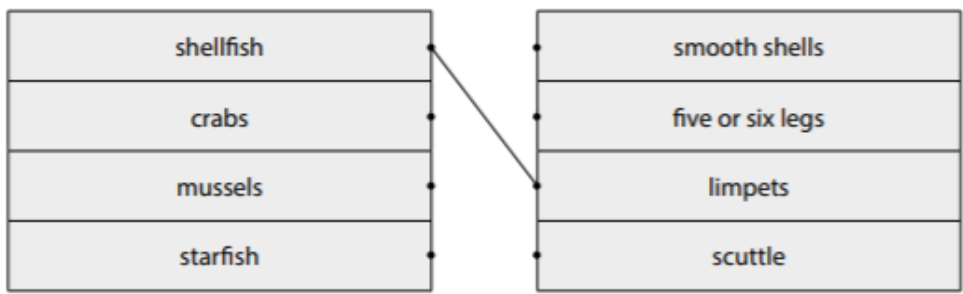
Creatures that live in the rock pools are also hurt by people. If you do go to explore, remember to leave them safe and happy in their pools.



Your reading activities this week have not been grouped into the different strategies, as when you come to do an assessment, they will be all mixed in together. You need to be confident in the strategies to know what type of question you are being asked and use the steps we learnt in school to help you to answer the question.

Remember to read the text and the questions carefully and once you know what the question is asking, always go back to the text to look for your answer or to find your evidence.

1) Match the following words to the information. One has already been done for you.



Label the information with the correct rock pool inhabitant.

2)

Scuttles sideways	
Spreads out its legs	
Cracks open shellfish	
Moves slowly	
Opens their shells slightly	
Eats tiny plants	

3) Look at paragraph 5. Find and **copy** a word that refers to the natural place that rock pool creatures live.

4) **Look at paragraphs 1 and 2 in *Rock pools*. Number the statements from 1 to 5 to show the order they occur in the text.**

- They have to suit life underwater, when the tide is in, and survive for a while on dry rocks, when the tide is out.
- Would you like to study fascinating creatures in their natural habitat?
- Next time you have a chance to go to the beach, look at the tiny oceans that exist in rock pools.
- These become home for some very adaptable sea creatures.
- Rock pools are formed when the sea fills spaces between rocks and forms small pools.

- 5) What is the meaning of the word '*adaptable*' in paragraph 2?
 - a) Can easily change
 - b) a type of table
 - c) limited
- 6) Look at the paragraph beginning '*Despite their protective shells...*'. Find and **copy** a word that suggests that gulls move quickly and smoothly.
- 7) How many legs does a starfish usually have?
- 8) Which animal can open its shell very slightly?

9) **Read the sentences. Put a tick in the correct box to show which sentences are true and which are false.**

Starfish, limpets and crabs are all examples of rock pool inhabitants. True False

Rock pools are like tiny oceans. True False

Rock pools are formed when the sea fills spaces between rocks. True False

Rock pool creatures are not very adaptable. True False

Rock pool creatures can't survive when the tide is out. True False

Shellfish may have smooth, dark shells. True False

10) **Look at *Rock pools*. Number the statements from 1 to 5 to show the order they occur in the text. Look at the first line of each paragraph to help you.**

Mussels are also shellfish.

Limpets and barnacles are tiny shellfish that cling to rocks.

Crabs scuttle sideways to get around.

Creatures that live in the rock pools are also hurt by people.

Have you ever wanted to be an explorer?

11) '*Crabs scuttle sideways*'. What is the meaning of the word scuttle in this sentence?

12) Look at the paragraph beginning '*Limpets and barnacles...*'. Find and **copy** a word that suggests that the plants limpets eat are very small.

13) Look at the first paragraph. Find a word which is the same as someone who looks at and thinks about something new.

14) Which animals eat tiny plants?

It is up to you how many questions you answer each day, but I recommend that you answer 3 or 4 each day as this will mean that you spending time thinking about your answers rather than rushing through them. The rest of your time can be spent reading books that you have at home or books online using the Epic website. I do check who has been logging on to read and if this activity has been set, I do expect you to log on and spend some time reading.

If you are unable to access this for any reason, please can you let me know by emailing me.

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