

"Get a Grip"
Discussion Questions



Welcome! Today we will be looking at how **tidepool animals** survive in the rocky shore environment; specifically, how they are able to withstand **waves**.

Use the questions below to assist your students in their discoveries.



Watch an animal in the exhibit.

- What happens when the waves crash on that animal?
- What does the animal do when the wave crashes against it?
- Do you notice anything about the animal's **body shape or features** that could help it survive in the tidepools?



In the Classroom:

- What do you notice about this animal?
- What body feature(s) do you notice that could help it to survive the crashing waves?
- What do you think it does to survive the crashing waves? (think of a behavior)





Try these questioning strategies to elicit deeper responses:

•Can someone add to that? • Does someone have a different idea? • What makes you think that?





Clingfish Station



- 1. Identify station/animal and trace the name.
- 2. Remind students that this is **not a touch station**.
- 3. Observe: Have students share out features that they notice, including whether it looks soft or hard. Make sure that they look closely at the underside of the fish.
- 4. Draw fish.
- 5. Remind students that this fish grips rock. Have them compare suction on a smooth plastic surface versus the rock.
- 6. How does it grip? Each student may circle their choice but take group consensus for the group sheet.





Mussel Station

To adjust focus, move column slightly up or down



- 1. Identify station/animal and trace the name.
- 2. Remind students that this is **not a touch station**.
- 3. Observe: Have students share out features that they notice, including whether it looks soft or hard. Have them examine the mussel shells.
- 4. Draw mussels during this time, have students come up to view the microscopes. The image that they are viewing is what a mussel uses to grip. Check focus after each student.
- 5. How does it grip? Each student may circle their choice but take group consensus for the group sheet.

How does it grip?

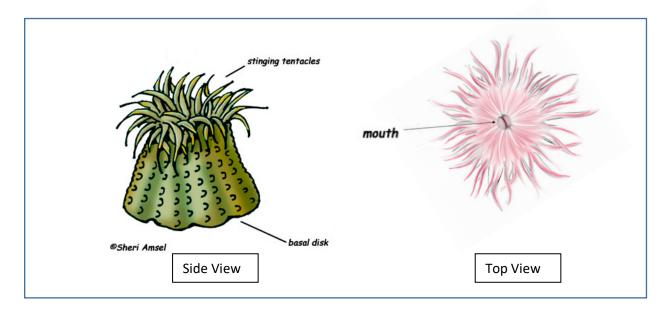


Sea Urchin Station



- 1. Identify station/animal and trace the name.
- 2. Observe: Have students share out features that they notice, including whether it looks soft or hard. Students may also touch the urchin objects during this time.
- 3. Draw urchin. As students draw, allow students come up to **touch one at a time**. They should gently place 1 finger among the spines. As they hold it there, the urchin's spines will gently hug their finger.
- 4. How does it grip? Each student may circle their choice but take group consensus for the group sheet.





- 1. Identify station/animal and trace the name.
- 2. Observe: Have students share out features that they notice, including whether it looks soft or hard.
- 3. Draw anemone. As students draw, allow students come up to **touch one at a time**. Use the anemone model to demonstrate how to touch. Student may gently touch the anemone's tentacles and column with 1 finger. Avoid the central area where the mouth/anus is.
- 4. How does it grip? Each student may circle their choice but take group consensus for the group sheet.