



Our Island Environment

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Wildlife Conservation & Restoration Program, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
CNMI Division of Fish & Wildlife, Department of Lands & Natural Resources

Our Island Environment, Book 2
CNMI DFW, 2003

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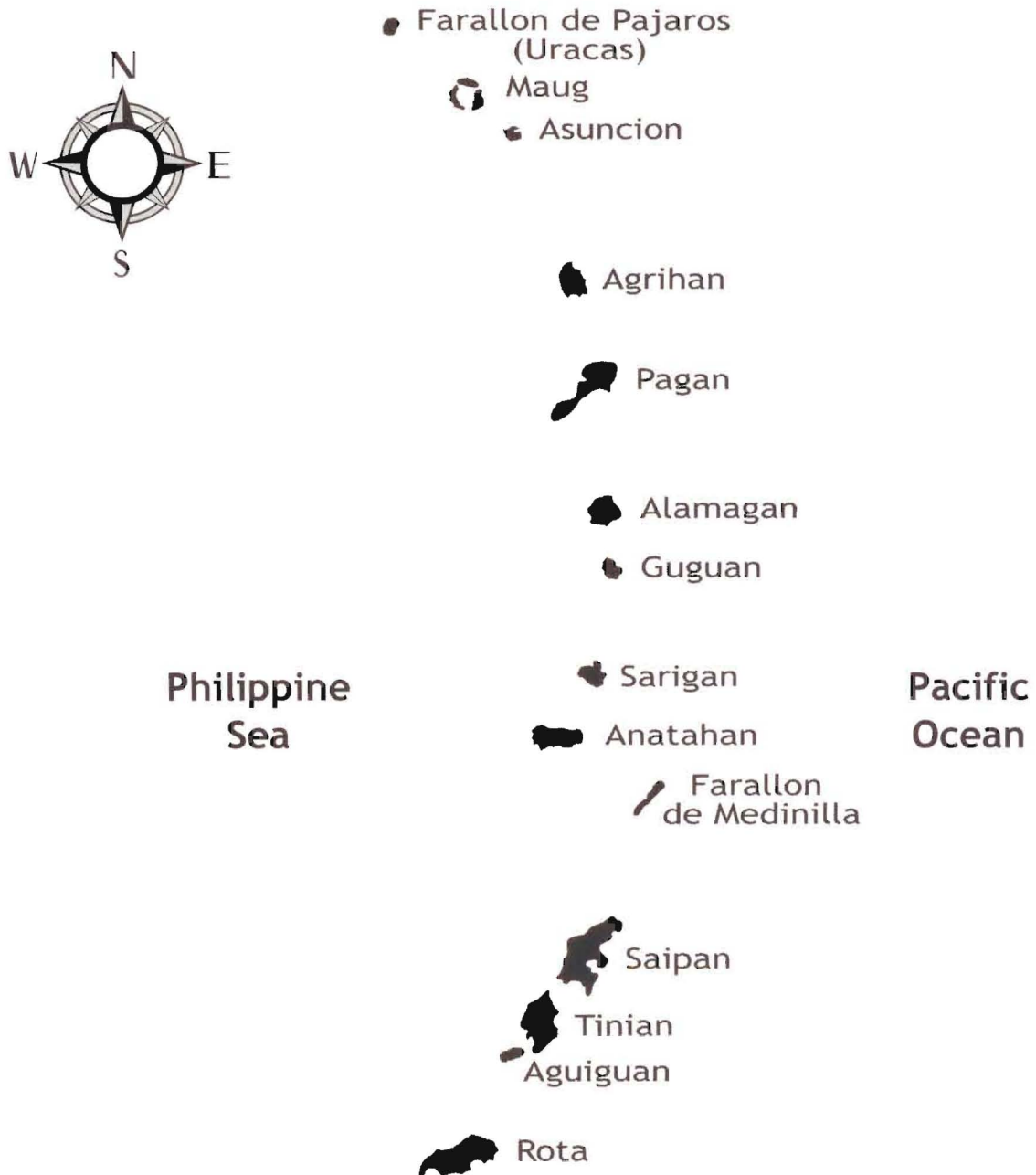
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The CNMI

We live on an **island**. Our island is part of a group of islands called the **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands** or **CNMI**. The island chain is made up of 14 islands that were formed from **volcanoes** thousands of years ago.



Activity – Which Direction?

A **compass** is used to help people find direction.



N = North

E = East

S = South

W = West

Use the map of the **CNMI** on page 5 to answer these questions about directions.

Circle the correct direction.

The Philippine Sea is _____ of the CNMI.

North

South

East

West

Tinian is _____ of Saipan.

North

South

East

West

Saipan is _____ of Rota.

North

South

East

West

The Pacific Ocean is _____ of the CNMI.

North

South

East

West

Pagan is _____ of Maug.

North

South

East

West

Geography Terms

The **Earth** is the planet we live on. It is made up of **land** and **water**.



An **island** is land that has water all around it. Write the following words on the picture of the island.

Ocean

Rocks

Sky

Palm Tree

Beach

Clouds



One place that people like to visit is the **beach**. A beach is part of the land. The beach is next to the ocean. Beaches have sand and rocks on them.

The Three Forms of Water

Water has three forms:

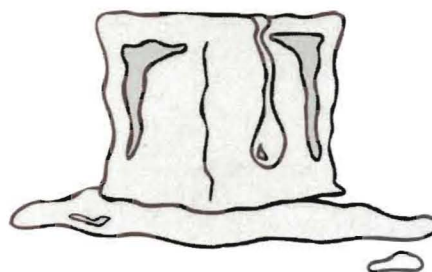
1. Solid (ice)
2. Liquid (drinking water)
3. Gas (steam, vapor)

Matching – Draw lines to match each word to the correct picture.

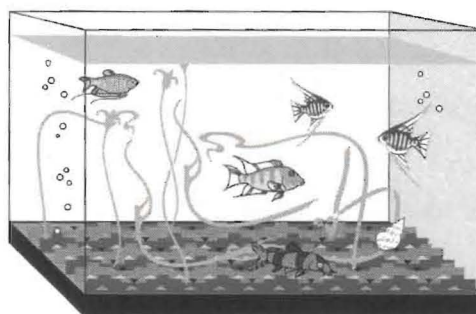
Solid



Liquid



Gas



Observations: 1. Put ice cubes into a glass. Watch how they change from solid to liquid form. 2. Boil water. Watch how it changes from liquid to gas form.

The Oceans and Continents

Most of the water on the Earth is in the oceans. The oceans cover two thirds of the surface of the Earth. 97% of all of the water on the Earth is in the oceans. That means that 97% of all of the water on the Earth is salty. There is enough salt in the oceans to cover the land on the Earth with a layer that is 502 feet (153 meters) thick!

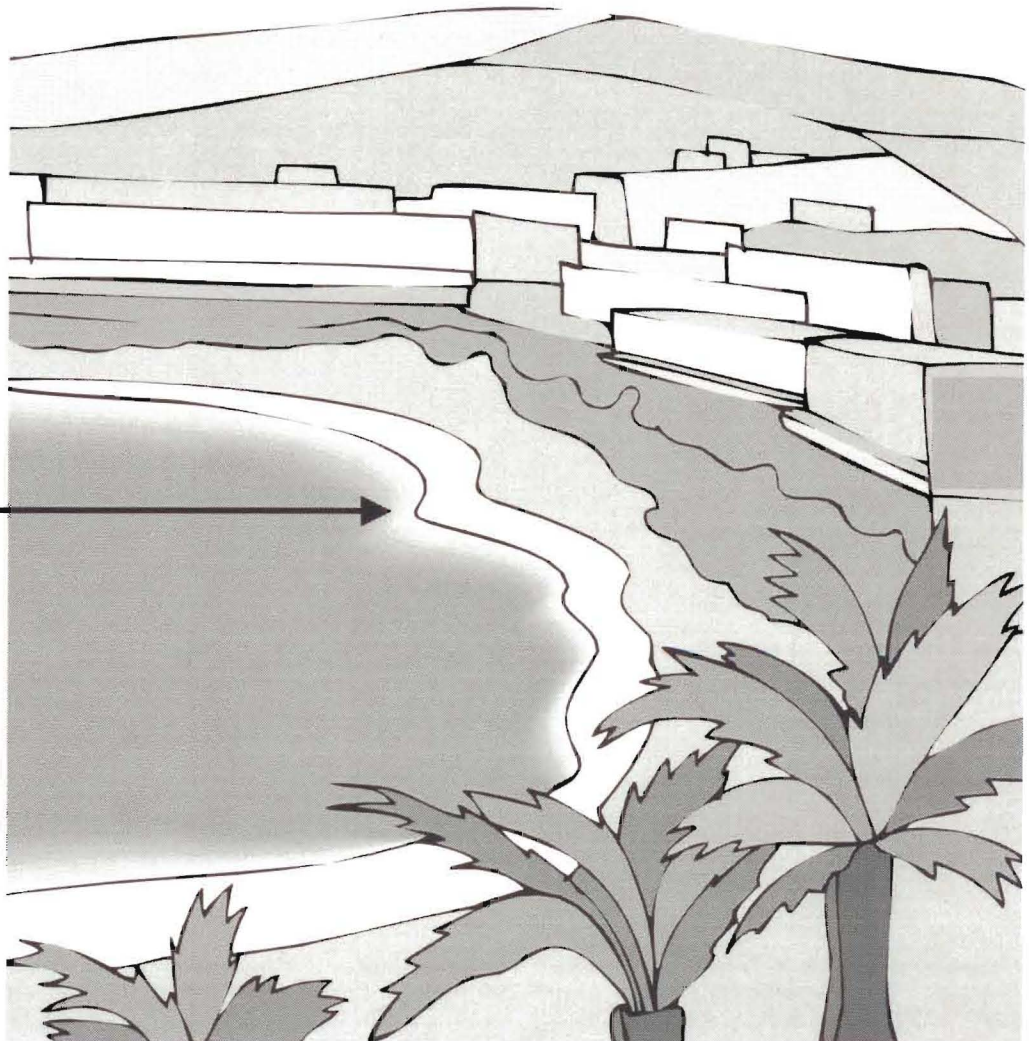


There are 4 oceans: Atlantic, Pacific, Indian and Arctic Ocean. The Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands or the CNMI is in the Pacific Ocean. Continents are large areas of land on the Earth. There are seven different continents on the Earth.

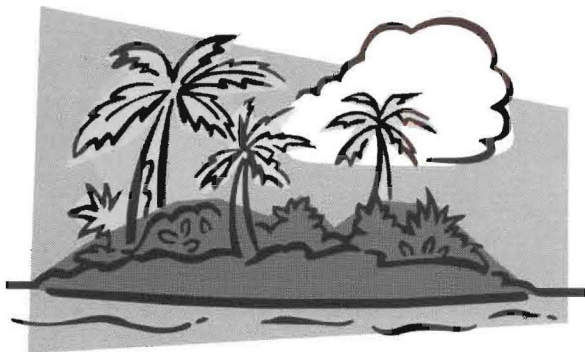


Where Land and Ocean Meet

A place where the land and ocean meet is called the **seashore**, or **shoreline**.



The land near the ocean is called the **coast**.

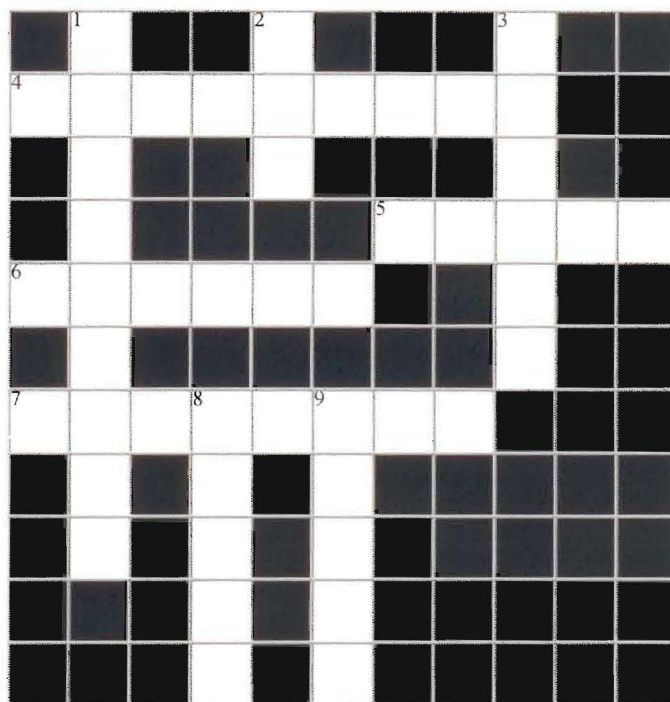


An **island** is a land with ocean all around it. We live on an island. Our island is one of many islands. Our islands are called the **Northern Mariana Islands**. Most of the people live on the islands called Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

What is the name of the island where you live? _____

Earth Science Review

Crossword



Across:

- 4 The islands of the CNMI were formed from these.
- 5 Land near the ocean.
- 6 Drinking water is water in the _____ form.
- 7 A place where the land and the ocean meet.

Down:

- 1 A large areas of land on the Earth.
- 2 Steam or vapor is water in the _____ form.
- 3 Land with ocean all around it.
- 8 Ice is water in the _____ form.
- 9 Salt water is found in the _____.

Earth Science Word Search

Y L C D U N L S O W E Y D S J
J W P N A U E B F S U N K I R
G A U P D W O R D E W M W S C
R C I W H N Z L I Z F J C G Y
C A T D O V I R N Z S T F R T
S L L A B O E W I H O C M P C
T A O N N D A U A H D U O Y C
S W H U Q N R V R U S C I D U
Z S T H D A T J Q Z E I G F A
X Y A O B L H Y D A F M Z T P
I S P P Y S T I N I A N O G U
M H J Z M I H C A E B R E J U
C B L Q N O K X Y V A S V O V
K S G W F Y C R K M R H P F U

Find the words that in the puzzle above.

BEACH
CLOUD
COMPASS
EARTH
ISLAND
OCEAN
RAIN
ROTA
SAIPAN
SUN
TINIAN
WIND

Activity - Alive or Not?

Read: In this lesson, we will learn the difference between something that is alive and something that is not alive.

Teacher: Make a list (or cut out and sort) of several things are alive. Make another list of several things that are not alive. Have students explain why the things are on each list.

Possible answers from students.

Alive

It can move.

It can grow.

It needs food/energy.

It can have babies (it can reproduce).

Not Alive

It cannot move.

It cannot grow.

It does not need food/energy.

It cannot have babies.

Advanced Answers

Living things have cells.

Living things respond and adapt to their environment (change).

Then, how do we know if something is alive?

It is a combination of things that makes something alive.

Examples of things that have at least one characteristic of living things:

Sponge

Show it to the class and/or make one student draw how big it is. Wet it with water and show how the size increases.

Did the sponge get larger? If so, did it grow? Is it alive?

Toy Car

Roll a toy car/truck across the floor.

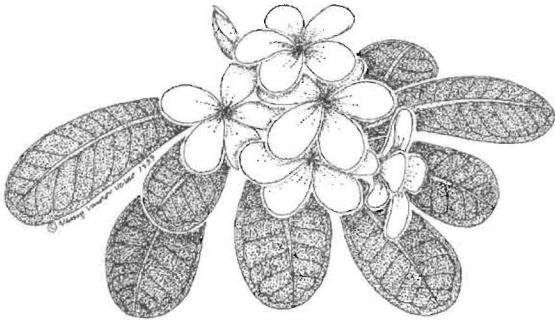
Did the car move? Is it alive?

Classifying Plants and Animals

Many **plants** and **animals** live on the island with us. A plant needs the **sun** to grow. The **energy** from the sun is how every living thing survives. Many animals eat plants. Other animals eat smaller animals.

Circle the correct answer to each question.

Is this a plant or an animal?



Plant

Animal

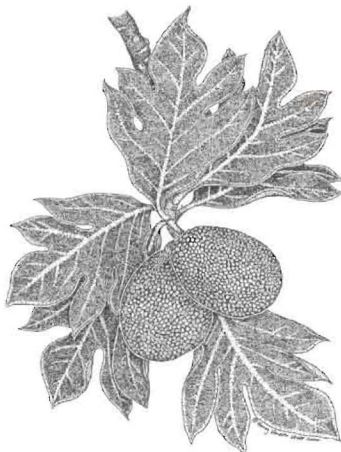
Is this a plant or an animal?



Plant

Animal

Is this a plant or an animal?



Plant

Animal

Illustrations by Nancy Vander Velde, used with permission.

Venn Diagram – Comparing Plants and Animals

Plants and Animals

Plants and animals are alive.

Plants and animals need food and water to grow.

Plants

Plants need the sun to live.

Plants grow from seeds.

Plants cannot move.

Animals

Animals eat plants or other animals to live.

Animals can move by walking, crawling, swimming or flying.

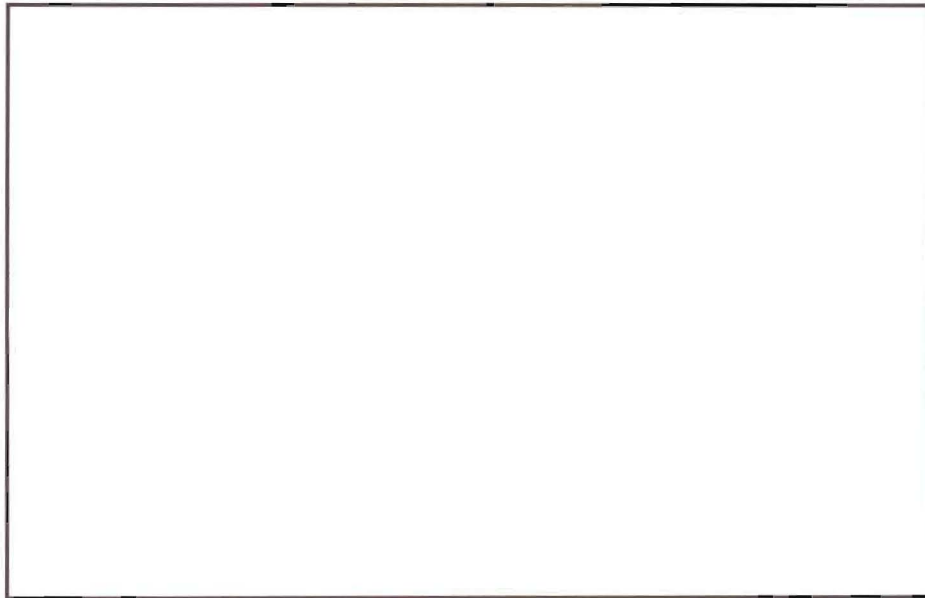
Write down the name of a plant and an animal. Use the diagram to list ways that a plant and an animal are the same. Then, list ways that they are different.

Name a Plant	Name an Animal
_____	_____
- - - - -	- - - - -
_____	_____

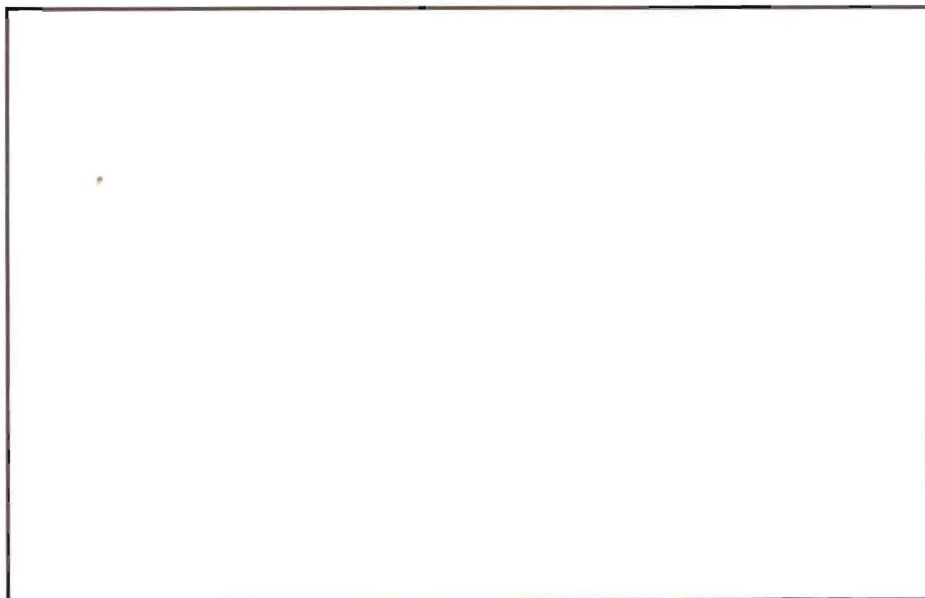
different same different

Plants and Animals in the Schoolyard

Your schoolyard has many different plants and animals. Go outside with your teacher and look around. Write the name of a **plant** that you see on the line. Then, draw a picture of the **plant** in the box.



Write the name of an animal that you see on the line. Then, draw a picture of the **animal** in the box.



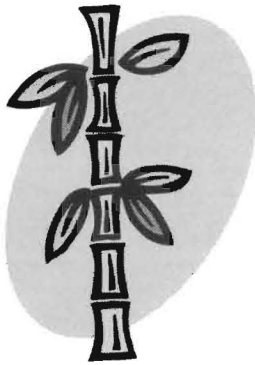
Habitats

A place where a plant or animal lives is its **habitat**.

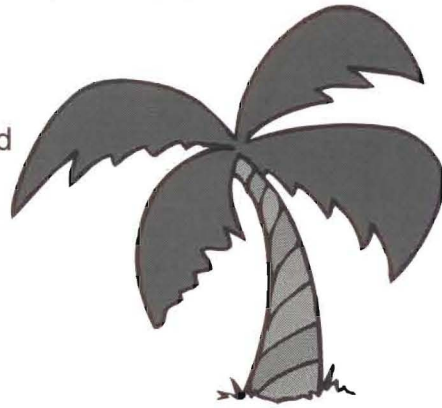
Your habitat
is your house.



Islands have many different habitats for plants and animals to live in.



Trees are a good
habitat. Many
animals hide
there.



The **ocean** has many different habitats for plants and animals.
How many different habitats can you find in this picture? _____

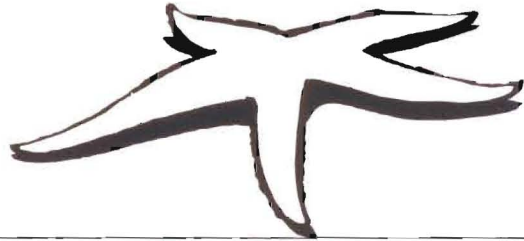


Do You Know What I Am?

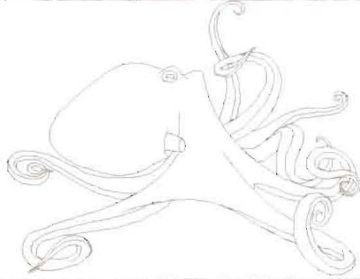
Color these animals and learn where they live.
A place where an animal lives is called its _____



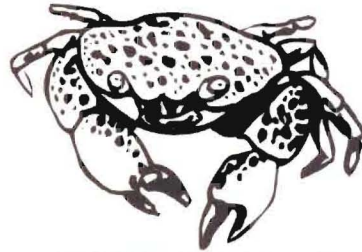
I am a **fish**.
I live near the coral.



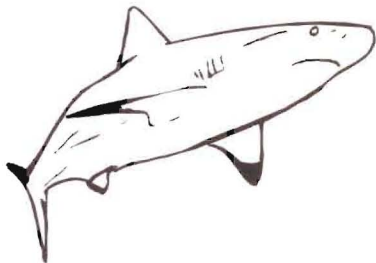
I am a **sea star**.
I live on the reef.



I am an **octopus**.
I live in the holes on the coral reef.



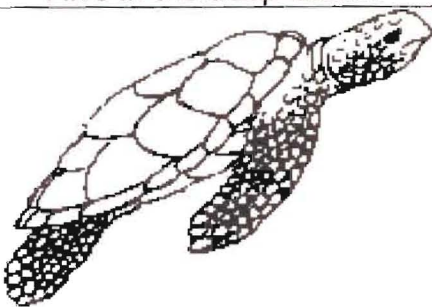
I am a **crab**.
I live on the coral reef.



I am a **shark**.
I live in the deep ocean.



I am a **sea fan**.
I live on the deep part of the coral reef.

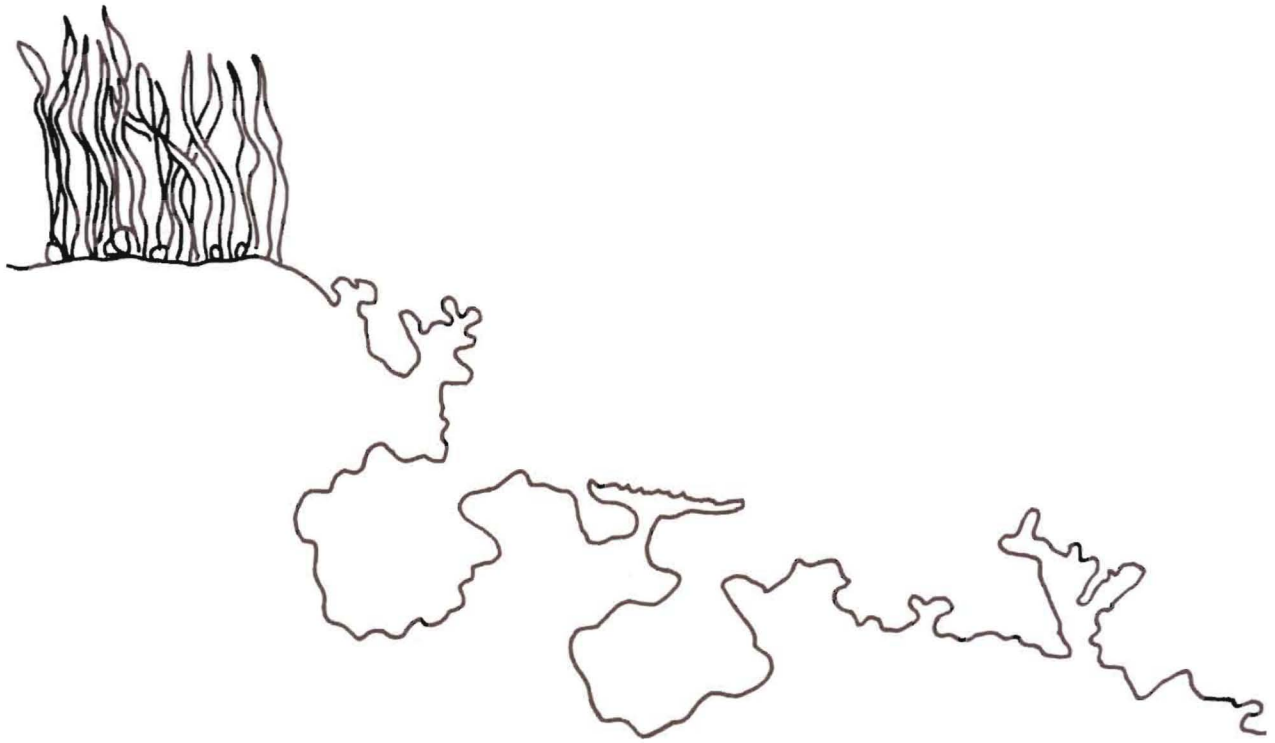


I am a **turtle**.
I live in the deep ocean. Sometimes I come
near the island to eat sea grass.

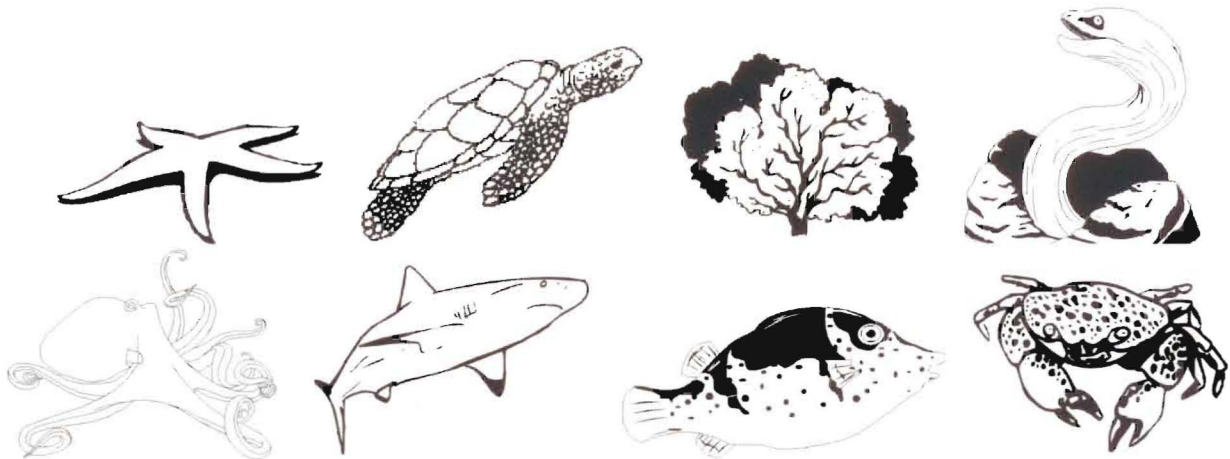


I am an **eel**.
I live in the holes on the coral reef.

Help Me Find My Home



Draw the animals where they live.



Coral Reef Animals

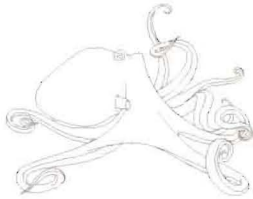
Practice writing the names of the animals that you learned.



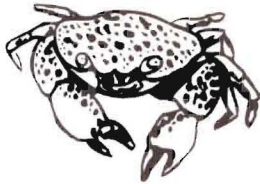
fish



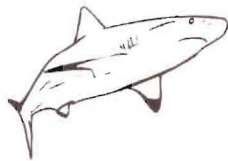
sea star



octopus



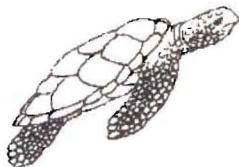
crab



shark



sea fan



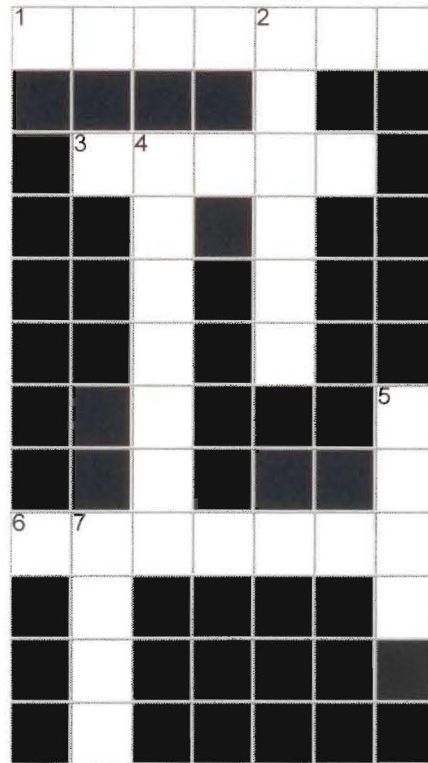
turtle



eel

Coral Reef Animal Puzzle

Crossword



Across:

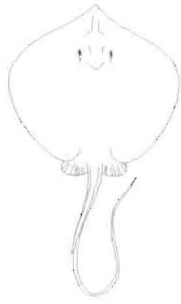
- 1 I move slowly. I live on the bottom. I have 5 arms.
- 3 I am a big fish that lives in deep water. I like to eat coral reef fishes.
- 6 I have 8 arms. I live inside of holes in the coral.

Down:

- 2 I like to eat sea grass. I breathe air.
- 4 A place where a sea animal lives.
- 5 I swim with fins. I have gills.
- 7 I have claws. I live on the bottom.

More Coral Reef Animal Names

Practice writing the names of other coral reef animals.



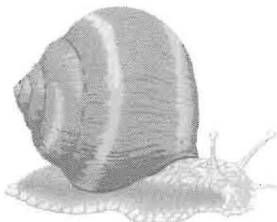
sting ray



jellyfish



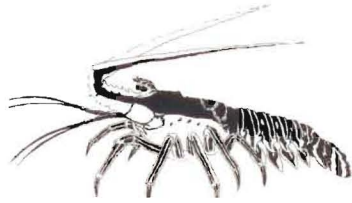
sponge



snail



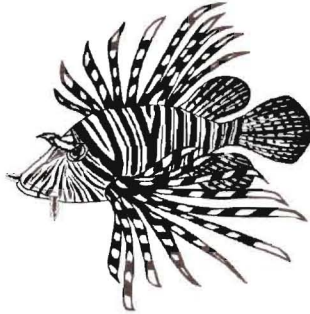
coral



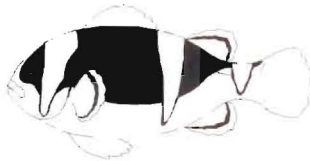
lobster



sea urchin



lion fish



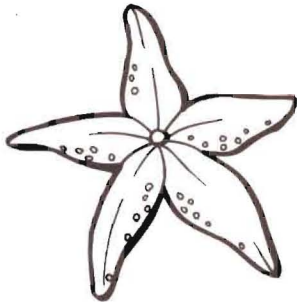
clown fish



sea horse

Beach Animals

Here are some **animals** that you may find at the beach.
Some live in the **sand** and others live in the **rocks**.



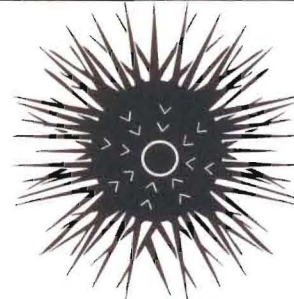
sea star



brittle star



sea cucumber



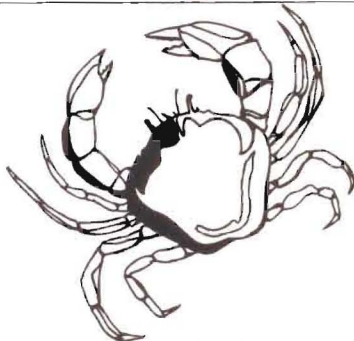
sea urchin



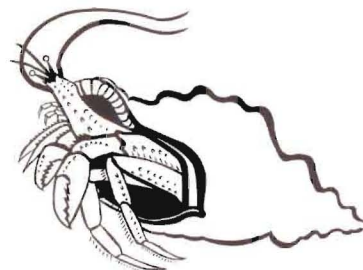
snail



clam



ghost crab



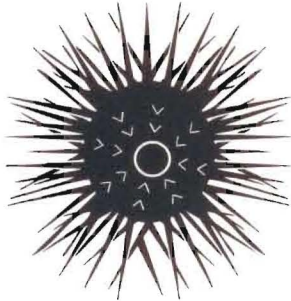
hermit crab

Beach Animal Names

Practice writing the names of these beach animals.



clam



sea urchin



sea cucumber



brittle star



hermit crab
