

Meet the Crabs

We have picked a selection of hermit crabs from the 1100 different species. Here we are writing autobiography cards for a jigsaw activity designed to begin to spread information about their lives.

Issues raised so far?

plastic and other items in the ocean

disappearance of Amelia Earhart

exotic pet trade

crabs as food

strength of crabs

Last updated 6th February 2020



We are both looking for a larger shells to live in. If we find something bigger, my friend can leave the white shell and I can move in.



I have found a very unusual shell to live in. Most of us live in sea snail shells but as you grow bigger it gets more difficult to find a home.



We are for sale as pets. The shopkeeper painted our shells. Unfortunately the paint will soak through the shell and poison us. Also our owners don't keep us damp enough to survive.



I found this home lying on the beach. It's not as comfortable as a shell, but I am growing too big for sea snail shells. Maybe it's time to look for something more cosy. I will keep looking out for big beautiful shells.



When I got too big to find a sea shell, I went to live on land. My soft shell grew hard but I still have to go to the sea from time to time to keep damp.



I can climb trees to pick coconuts. I can pierce the coconut with my very strong left claw.



We have found an empty shell but it's too big. So we are hanging on here until some crab likes it and then it will be bigger shell swap time.



We are quite a sociable bunch. In fact we quite like piling up on top of each other. The only time we fight is when two of us want to move into the same shell.



We are the blue crabs. As you can see I have managed to find a good coloured shell.



I am an orange crab.



I am a red crab.





I live very deep down where it is dark and a lot of sea animals down here glow or have lights on their tails or noses.



I am still very small but I seem to be growing very fast and this is my third shell so far.



I have found a very unusual home. Other crabs tell me that I will get well ahead on social networking.



How did I get so big? I spend a lot of time investigating these food bins left out for us by humans.
