



# ROCKPOOL RAMBLE

It's a little blue zoo



**OCEAN  
SCHOOL**  
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE



All Ages



20 Mins



Outdoors

# ROCKPOOL RAMBLE

Rockpools are home to thousands of organisms and ocean critters. And they all depend on the tide flowing in and out every day, bringing fresh food and new companions. In our rockpool ramble, we're going to explore the rockpools on the beach, see who lives there, and figure out how their homes might be affected by rubbish and pollution. But let's keep our distance. We can look, gaze, peek and stare, but let's not touch, poke, yank or twiddle.

## Do

- If there's a lot of you, get into teams of two.
- Grab a pen and paper.
- Investigate a rockpool each.
- How many colours are there?
- What plants and animals can you see?
- Why would the animals choose to live there?
- Can you see what's under the rocks and seaweed without touching them?
- What might change as the tide comes in?
- What might change as the sun comes and goes?
- How might plastic and pollution affect the rockpool's plants and animals?
- Set a time limit, then come back together.

## Discuss

- The questions above, now you've researched the rockpools yourselves.

## Prepare

- Magnifying glasses.
- Spot the species guide on the next page.

## Learn

- How organisms live in the habitats they're suited to.
- How different habitats give their creatures what they need.
- The names of marine plants and animals.

## Act

- Talk to your friends and family about the threats to rockpools, like climate change, acidification and pollution. And how we can protect them - such as with beach cleans and using less single-use plastic.
- Take photos of the rockpools and all the critters living in them. Then share these all over your socials using these hashtags:



#OCEANSCHOOL  
#OCEANACTIVISTS

Lots of medicines come from marine plants and animals. Like coral reefs, algae and even starfish.

## Spot the species guide

See how many of these little critters you can spot on your ramble.



**Barnacle**  
At high tide a barnacle opens its shell and sticks its legs out to catch prey.



**Mussel**  
Mussels have beards. They grow a hair-like substance to attach themselves to rocks.



**Crab**  
Crabs have an external skeleton called an 'exoskeleton'.



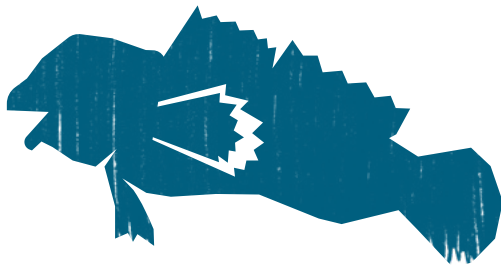
**Shrimp**  
There are over 128 species of shrimp!



**Beadlet Anemone**  
The beadlet anemone catches prey using its tentacles which are full of stinging cells.



**Starfish**  
Starfish have an eyespot at the end of each arm.



**Blenny**  
A blenny is capable of living out of water for many hours.



**Sea Lettuce**  
Sea lettuce makes its own food by photosynthesis.



**Sea Slug**  
Sea slugs have both male and female organs



**Limpet**  
Limpets have one large muscular foot which they use to move around rocks.



**Moon Jellyfish**  
All jellyfish are 95% water and have no brain, blood or heart.

## BONUS ACTIVITIES

Research your own facts about these rocky shore creatures and keep an eye out for them on your ramble.

- Common Whelk
- Topshell
- Sea Squirt
- Hermit Crab



# GET THE MOST FROM OCEAN SCHOOL

Rockpool Ramble is an **Explore** activity, all about getting active and investigating critical issues.

For a full Ocean School journey, we'd recommend doing a **Connect** exercise first, to help you feel closer to the sea and get things off to a chilled start. And then once you've done the Explore task, finishing with a **Protect** activity to put everything you've learned into action.



**OCEAN  
SCHOOL**  
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

Share your Ocean School story here:

 @SurfersAgainstSewage  
 @SurfersAgainstSewage  
 @SasCampaigns  
#OceanSchool #OceanActivists