

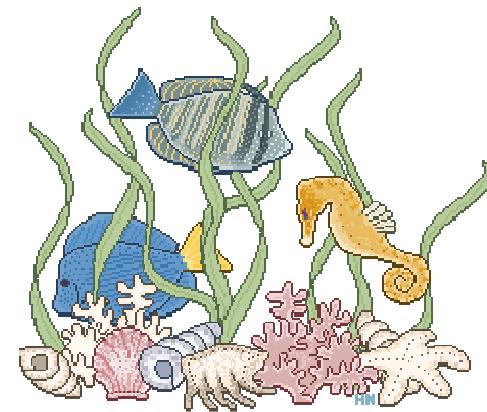
# Fun Ocean Facts!

Graphics:



& Web Clip Art

Book created by Judy Bonzer



By \_\_\_\_\_

## Orca Whale



The orca or killer whale is the largest member of the dolphin family. It eats other whales as well as seals, sea lions, fish, and walrus. It is a mammal, so needs to come to the surface to breathe through its blowhole. Orcas only have one baby at a time called a calf. The calf drinks milk from the mother. The baby can swim but the mother must push it up to the surface for air. It stays close to its mother for a year. The mother teaches its baby how to dive, breathe under water, and how to get food. Orcas can be found in oceans all over the world.

1.

## Jellyfish



A jellyfish is not a fish but a sea animal called a medusa. It has no bones, so its body is squishy like jelly. The jellyfish is very lightweight. That helps it float in the water. They drift with the ocean current and pick up small fish and shrimp in their tentacles. They zap and stun the animals with their stinging tentacles. They bring the prey into their mouth at the center of their bodies. Jellyfish can be found in oceans all over the world.

2.

## Octopus



An octopus has eight strong tentacles. Octopuses can hide by changing the color and texture of their skin. They can look like a piece of seaweed or a bit of coral. This is called posturing. If there is danger, an octopus can escape by clouding the water with dark ink from its ink sac. A mother octopus lays thousands of eggs. The eggs attach to rocks on the ocean floor. The mother guards the eggs for about six weeks until they hatch. The young swim to the ocean surface and hope not to get eaten! Octopuses can be found in oceans all over the world.

3.

## Seahorse



Sea horses are fish but they don't swim very well. They tend to spend most of their time with their tails wrapped tightly around sea grass or seaweed to keep them anchored. The father seahorse is responsible for hatching the young. The mother deposits her eggs into the father's pouch, similar to the pouch of a kangaroo. The eggs are then protected until ready to hatch within a few weeks. Seahorses live in the shallow, grassy waters of oceans worldwide.

4.

## Sea Turtle



Turtles cannot live without their shells. When a turtle is in trouble, it pulls its head, legs, and tail into its shell. This shell protects it from danger. Mother sea turtles dig a hole in the sand, lay their eggs, and cover them up. The babies hatch and make their way to the ocean trying to avoid crabs, sea birds, and other animals that would eat them. The sea turtles live by themselves swimming all over the ocean for about 20 years. Sea turtles live in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian oceans.

5.

## Stingrays



Stingrays look like wavy flat disks with long tails. They are graceful swimmers and look like they are flying through the water. They like to stir up the sandy bottom of the ocean with their fins to find and feed on worms, mussels, and small crustaceans that live there. It is hard to see a stingray when it is laying flat on the ocean floor. Stingrays have a tiny barb at the end of their tails and although they mainly use it for protection, it can cause a serious wound.

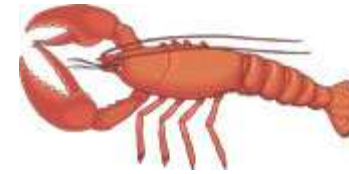
6.

## Sharks



There are many different types of sharks. Some have as many as four rows of teeth! Sharks use their teeth to grab prey and tear food. When an old tooth falls out, a new one replaces it. Most sharks give birth to live babies. They are born knowing how to swim. Sharks are born with teeth and can defend themselves right away. Their mothers do not need to take care of them. Sharks live in all the oceans of the world and some rivers and lakes.

## Lobsters



Lobsters have five sets of legs. Their front legs are called claws. One claw is always bigger than the other. Lobsters use their claws to grab and tear food. A mother lobster lays thousands of eggs at a time. She carries them under her tail for a year. The babies then rise to the surface of the water and drift for about two months. Many are easy prey for fish and birds. The few survivors sink to the ocean bottom and grow into adults.

## Fish



Fish are the world's oldest vertebrates. They are cold-blooded animals. They breathe through their gills and swim using their fins and tails. Fish have excellent senses of sight, touch, taste and many possess a good sense of smell and hearing. Nearly all reproduce by laying eggs. Many fish live in schools. All kinds of fish live in all the oceans of the world and in many rivers, lakes and streams.

## Sea Star (Starfish)



The sea star was once called a star fish but it is not a fish, so it has been renamed the "sea star". There are some 2,000 species living in all the world's oceans. Five-arm varieties are the most common but there are some that have 10, 20, and even 40 arms! Beyond their distinctive shape, sea stars are famous for their ability to regenerate limbs, and in some cases, entire bodies. They move by tiny suction cups under their limbs. Their stomachs can also come out of their mouths to digest their prey.

Directions:

Fold each page in half with the writing to the outside.

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