



Be a Scientist!

Make a model of the deep ocean near a vent. Choose your own materials. You might use paper, clay, boxes, yarn, or other art supplies.

Show the vent and some of the animals that live near it. Also show parts on each animal that help it live in the deep ocean.



Beyond the Book

With your teacher's help, use digital tools to learn more about one of the animals in this book.

FOCUS Book

Animals of the Deep Ocean



: Science A-Z 

Animals of the Deep Ocean



FOCUS Question

How do special body parts help animals live in the deep ocean?

Structure and Function

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Life in the Deep



When you see the ocean, you see the top. But Earth's oceans are very deep. The deep ocean is different from any other place on Earth. It is as dark as night. It is ice-cold.

Ocean Top
warm water
more light

Deep Ocean
cold water
no light



Deep Ocean Animals

Special kinds of animals live in the deep ocean. Their body parts help them live in the dark, icy water. Let us learn about some of these animals.



Gulper Eel

Gulper eels can eat fish that are bigger than they are. How? Their mouths open very wide. Also, their stomachs stretch like balloons.



Viperfish

Viperfish have such big teeth that their mouths cannot close! Viperfish also glow in the dark. Other fish swim toward the glow and get eaten.



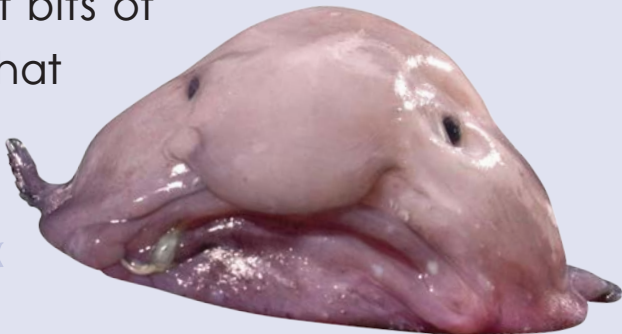
Tripod Fish

Tripod fish have three long fins. The fins touch the ocean floor. Tripod fish cannot see in the dark. They use their fins to feel things moving nearby. That way, they know when food is near.



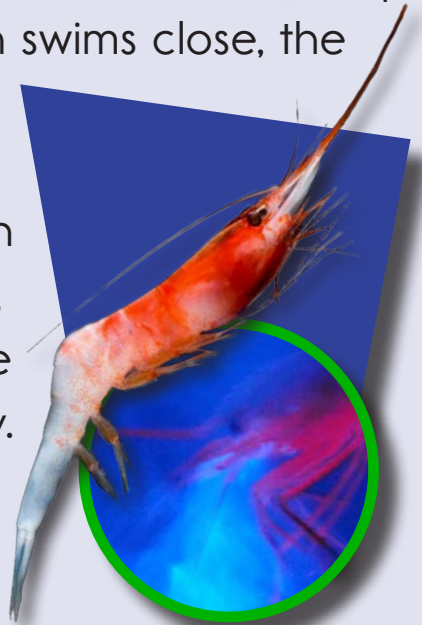
Blobfish

Blobfish look like blobs. They have no bones. They do not move much. So they eat bits of dead fish that float by.



Caridean Shrimp

The caridean (kuh-RID-ee-un) shrimp has a trick. If a fish swims close, the shrimp spits. The spit glows in the dark water. The fish sees only the glow, not the shrimp. The shrimp swims away.



Vampire Squid

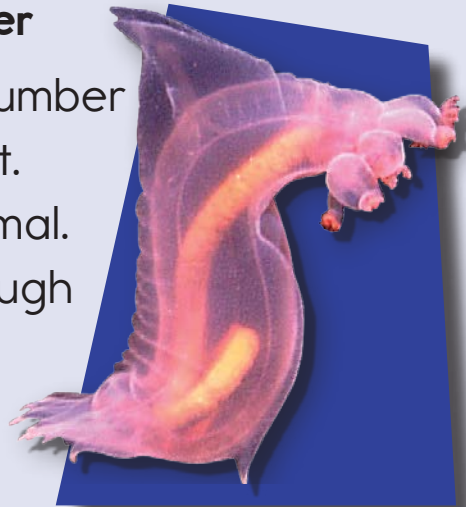
The vampire squid has big red eyes. They are as big as golf balls. They help the squid see in the dark.

To protect itself, the squid wraps its arms around itself like a cape.



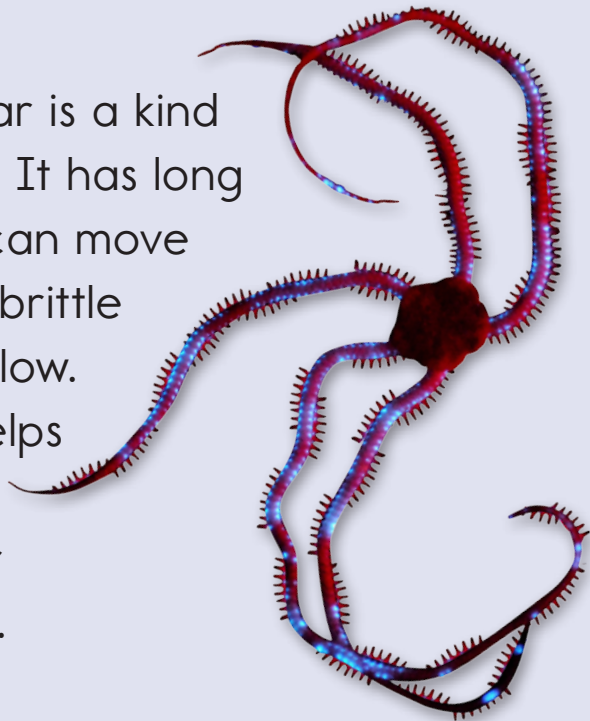
Pink Sea Cucumber

The pink sea cucumber sounds like a plant. It is really an animal. We can see through its body to the glowing organs inside.

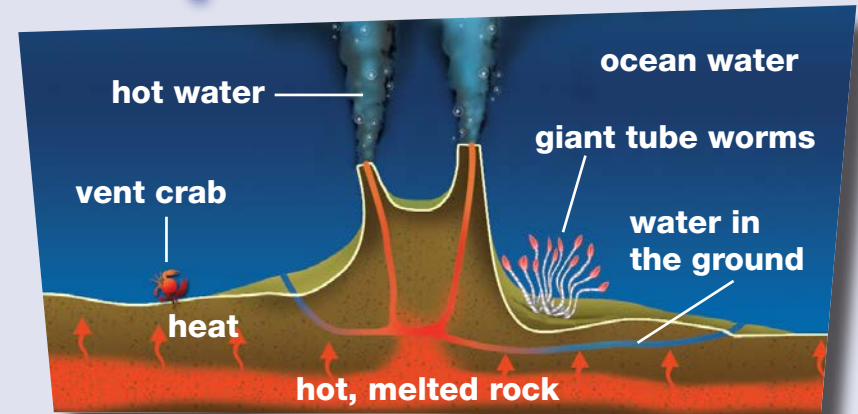


Brittle Star

A brittle star is a kind of sea star. It has long arms and can move fast. Some brittle stars can glow. Glowing helps them find each other in the dark.



Hot Spots



Most of the deep ocean is very cold. Some places are very hot. Water heats up in the ground below the sea. Super hot water comes out of cracks in the ground. These cracks are called ocean vents.

Some animals only live near ocean vents. They eat the food that grows in the hot water.

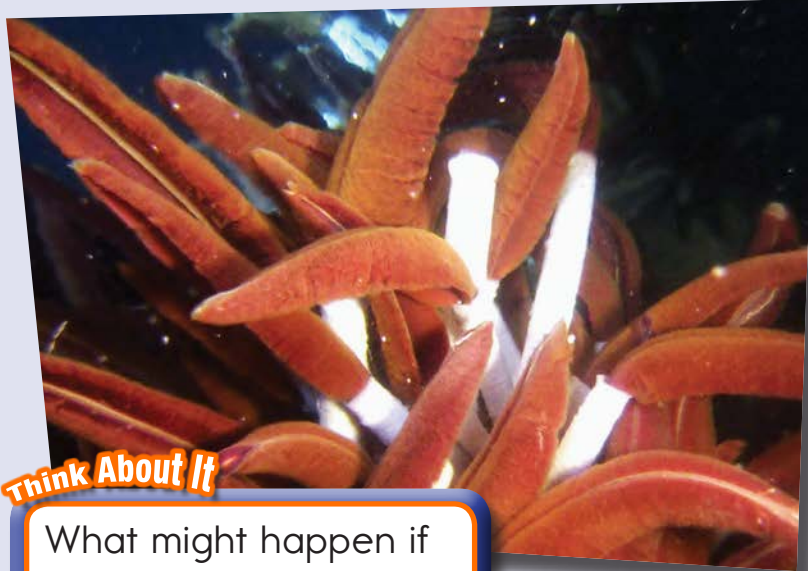


Giant Tube Worm

Giant tube worms have no mouths and no eyes! To get food from the water, they have a special body part. It is red and looks like a feather.

Vent Crab

Vent crabs live at ocean vents, too. They eat deep-sea worms, clams, and smaller living things.



Think About It

What might happen if an ocean vent stopped giving off hot water?

Read-Think-Write

Write or draw your answers on separate paper. Use details from the book to support each answer.

- 1 Study the diagram on page 2. Water in the deep ocean is cold and _____.
- 2 Name two deep ocean animals that glow.
- 3 Name two special body parts that deep ocean animals use to get food.
- 4 Which word means about the same as *vent*?
floor crack deep



FOCUS Question

How do special body parts help animals live in the deep ocean? Choose two different kinds of animals in this book. Compare their special body parts. Explain how the parts help the animals live.

