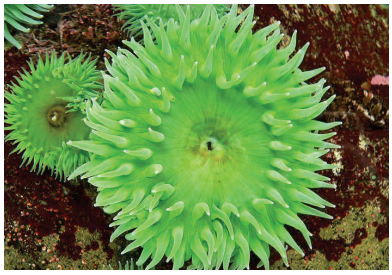
TIDE POOL INQUIRY QUESTIONS

Giant Green Anemones
Anthopleura xanthogrammica

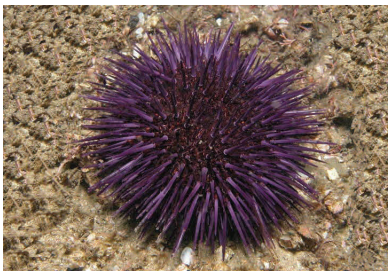


- **Why are Giant Green Anemones green?**
- **Describe what happens when you touch the outside of the Anemone? The inside flower-like tentacles?**
- **Why do Anemones cover themselves with rock and shell pieces?**
- **Why don't you want to touch its center (like a belly button)?**
- **What do anemones eat for dinner?**

Ochre Star
Pisaster ochraceus

- **Why are Ochre Stars different colors? How many different colored Sea Stars can you find?**
- **Touch a sea star. What does it feel like?**
- **Where is the mouth of an Ochre Star? How do they eat?**
- **Why are sea stars considered the kings and queens of tide pools?**
- **Where are Ochre Stars' eyes located? Why?**

Purple Sea Urchin
Strongylocentrotus purpuratus



- **Why are Purple Sea Urchins spiny?**
- **Gently touch and hold your finger on the Sea Urchin spines for 10 seconds or more. Describe what happens.**
- **Why are Purple Sea Urchins covered with shells and driftwood?**
- **What happens if you try to gently remove a stick or shell?**
- **Where is the mouth of a sea urchin? How do they eat?**
- **What other species are they related to? (Hint: they have arms)**

Thatched Barnacle
Semibalanus cariosus

- **What do barnacles eat?**
- **How do barnacles stay attached to the rocks?**
- **Can barnacles move from one place to another? How?**
- **Where are barnacles found? Are they on rocks? With other plants, or animals?**
- **Can you find three different types of barnacles? How are they different?**

Pacific Blue Mussel
Mytilus californianus

- **Why do Mussels live in large groups (beds)?**
- **Can you find where Mussels attach to the rocks?**
- **Carefully get close to a mussel and try to find the threads that they hold on with? Are other critters or plants living nearby?**
- **How do Mussels eat?**
- **Who likes to eat mussels?**

TIDE POOL INQUIRY QUESTIONS	
Hermit Crab *Pagarus spp.* 	• Can you find a Hermit Crab moving in the water? What is it doing? (Hint: you need to sit still and watch carefully.) • Do Hermit Crabs grow their own shells? If not, where do they get their shells? • How long can a Hermit Crab live without a shell? • What do Hermit Crabs eat? • Why doesn't the Giant Green Anemone eat the Hermit Crab?
Gumboot Chiton *Cryptochiton stelleri* 	• Touch the Gumboot Chiton. What does it feel like? • What is it related to? • Can you see it move? • Why does it look like a rock? • Would you like to be a chiton? Why or why not?
Turban Snail *Chlorostoma funebralis* 	• Can you find a Turban Snail that is moving? • Why are they called Turban Snails? • What do you think Turban Snails eat? • How do Turban Snails move? • What do they have to help protect themselves? • Are Turban Snails related to land snails? How are they the same or different?
Tide Pool Sculpin *Oligocottus maculosus* 	• Can you find a Sculpin "resting" or laying on the bottom of the tide pool? What is it doing? What happens if you touch it? • Is the Tide Pool Sculpin an invertebrate or vertebrate? • How large will the Sculpin get? How does it protect itself? • Do Sculpins ever leave the tide pool? Can it live out of water? • What do Sculpins eat?
Gooseneck Barnacle *Pollicipes polymerus* 	• Touch and gently try to move a one barnacle. Does it move? • Why are they called gooseneck barnacles? • What does a Gooseneck Barnacle eat? • Where do you find a Gooseneck Barnacle ? • What question would you like to ask a Gooseneck Barnacle ?