

SEA STARS



Purple Sea Star
Photo by Meet the Sea

PURPLE SEA STAR

Scientific Name:
Ophidiaster ophidianus

Key Information

The Purple Sea Star is a colorful sea creature found in tide pools and rocky shores, especially along the Pacific coast of North America. Its deep purple color and thick, bumpy arms help protect it from predators. It moves slowly using tiny tube feet and can even climb rocks! Purple Sea Stars are carnivores that eat mussels and clams. They use their strong arms to open shells and push out their stomachs to digest the food – strange but smart!

Curiosities

Purple Sea Stars have no brain or blood! Instead, they use filtered seawater to pump nutrients through their bodies – a special system called a water vascular system. It's one of the coolest things about how sea stars work!

RED SEA STAR

Scientific Name:
Echinaster sepositus

Key Information

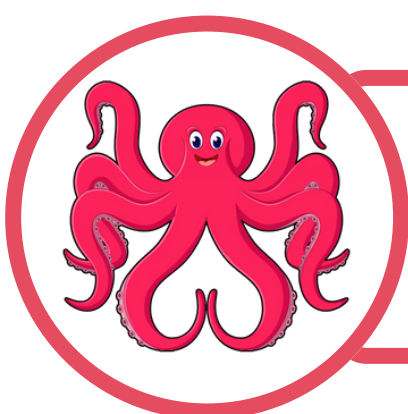
The Red Sea Star is a beautiful type of sea star (or starfish) found in the warm waters of the Red Sea and other tropical regions. It's easy to recognize because of its bright red or orange color and its five long, slender arms that often have tiny black spots or lines. Unlike some other sea stars that live in deep water, the Red Sea Star is usually found in shallow reefs, crawling slowly along the ocean floor. It moves using hundreds of tiny tube feet on the underside of its arms – these feet also help it grab food! Red Sea Stars feed mainly on algae and small organisms they find on rocks and coral. They are harmless to humans and play an important role in keeping the reef clean and healthy.

Curiosities

If a Red Sea Star loses an arm, it can grow it back! This amazing ability helps them survive in the wild.



Red Sea Star
Photo by Meet the Sea



Meet the Sea
Education & Entertainment at Sea