Edible Crab



Edible crabs have a pie-shaped shell with pasty style edging. They have ten legs, the front two of which have large, black pincers. They scavenge for food but will kill prey when they get a chance. They eat a lot of shellfish.

Once a year they shed their shell, having grown a new one underneath. This is soft at first so they hide away from predators but it soon hardens up.

Common Blenny



There are several types of blenny with the common blenny also being known as a shanny. They are fierce little predators and will both scavenge and kill smaller creatures than themselves.

Their mouths are very strong and their teeth are very sharp. Their bodies are well camouflaged against their surroundings and they also hide under rocks.

Shore Crab



Shore crabs tend to be green or brown and are much smaller than edible crabs.

They have ten legs, the front two of which have pincers. They scavenge for food but will kill prey when they get a chance. They eat a lot of shellfish.

Once a year they shed their shell, having grown a new one underneath. This is soft at first so they hide away from predators but it soon hardens up.

Lobster



Lobsters tend to be black, brown or purple. They have ten walking legs, the front two of which have large, pincers, and ten swimming legs. They scavenge for food but will kill prey when they get a chance. They also eat shellfish.

Like all crustaceans, they have a hard shell that they shed once a year. Chances are that you will only find very small ones within rockpools.

Starfish



Most starfish are active predators that feed on shellfish. Their mouths are in the centre and protected underneath their strong bodies.

Starfish hide away from predators during the day. However, if attacked, they can give up whatever limb the predator is holding. They rarely, if ever, sleep and are sensitive to light even though they have no eyes.

Prawn



Prawns have transparent (see-through) bodies. They have ten walking legs and ten swimming legs. They scavenge for food but will also eat plant matter, especially rotting plant matter.

Prawns are often confused with shrimps but shrimps have mottled brown or sandy bodies. (Shrimps live in the sand while prawns live in or near rocky areas.) Like crabs, prawns have a hard shell.

Hermit Crab



Hermit crabs have soft bodies which they protect by hiding in sea shells. However, in some parts of the world, people have taken so many shells away from the seashore that there are none left for the crabs.

Hermit crabs scavenge from the flesh of dead creatures. They put sea anemones on their backs to protect themselves. Sometimes a ragworm lives in their shells too, acting as a cleaner.

Limpet



Limpets are a type of sea snail that graze the algae on the rocks just like a herd of cows grazing the grass on a field. They have very hard shells. When threatened, there is a strong foot that pulls the limpet hard against the rocks, making it very, very hard to pull off.

Edible Crab	Common Blenny	Shore Crab	Lobster
Staufich	Drown	Harmit Crah	Limnot
Starfish	Prawn	Hermit Crab	Limpet