

The Rocky Shore - Spotter's Guide

Dog whelk



- Drills through the shell of its prey then injects enzymes to digest the insides before sucking back out.

5 points

Orange sponge



- It may not look like one, but a sponge is an animal!
- Soft with 'holes' and found in shady places.

15 points

Flat periwinkle



- A sea snail with flattened 'spire'. Colour varies.
- Likes to live on seaweed.

5 points

Serrated wrack



- Brown seaweed with a jagged edge like a saw.
- Found on the lower shore.

5 points

Keel worm



- Builds hard white tubes on rocks and lives in them.

10 points

Shanny



- Changes colour to blend in with rocks or seaweed
- Can survive outside water for a short time.

15 points

Laver bread



- A flat red seaweed that grows purplish as it gets bigger.
- A classic Welsh food!

5 points

Prawn



- Has very good hearing
- A prawn has a pointed rostrum 'horn', the flattened shrimp doesn't.

10 points

Hermit crab



- Found in pools and the shallows.
- Very good at righting themselves if the shell is knocked over.

20 points

Brittle-star



- Found in crevices and under stones (be sure to replace stones afterwards)
- Handle with extreme care – it's in the name!

20 points

Purple topshell



- Sea snail with a distinct purple striped shell.
- Internal mother-of-pearl.

10 points

Chiton



- Looks a bit like a woodlouse.
- Found in damp places and under rocks.

25 points

Coral weed



- Not a coral at all but a hard, crusty seaweed.
- Strong sun can turn it white.

15 points

Sea lettuce



- An edible green seaweed.
- If removed from the rocks by a storm it can grow when floating.

5 points

Beadlet anemone



- Jelly-like blobs with tentacles visible for feeding when underwater.
- Their mouth is also their bottom!

5 points

Limpet



- Returns to its home 'scar' each day. Never knock off a limpet – it will not survive.

5 points

Green-leaf worm



- 5-15cm
- Feeds on dead barnacles and mussels.

25 points

Snakelocks anemone



- Long sticky tentacles that can be brown or green with pink-purple tips.
- Found in pools

15 points

Broad-clawed porcelain crab



- Found on the underside of rocks (roll back after).
- One claw massively bigger than the other.
- Up to 1.5cm

10 points

Shore crab



- Most common crab on the shore. Colour varies from green to red.
- Pincers to grab prey (watch out!).

5 points

More than **100** points: you are an official seashore explorer
More than **140** points: you are a seashore exploring expert!

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Content by **Pembrokeshire Marine SAC**: www.PembrokeshireMarineSAC.org.uk

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