

# Let's go to the beach!



Credit: Ben Guerin

45 mins

## About this activity

Use your imagination to experience the joy of being near the sea. Visit a virtual rockpool before using your creativity in a paper plate creature challenge.

Brownies

## Outcomes:

- Use imagination to role play beach activities
- Learn about the variety of creatures that live in rockpools
- Use creativity to make a paper plate creature

## You will need:

### *For the trip to the beach:*

- Chairs set up in rows, like on a bus or train
- Typical items you would take to the beach e.g. picnic rugs, towels, rope, buckets, spades, inflatables, sunglasses, hats, beach chairs, frisbee, beach ball.

### *For paper plate creatures:*

- Paper plate for each person
- Tissue paper in different colours
- Glue and paints.

### *For rockpool exploring:*

- [Make your own rockpool instruction sheet](#)
- Sand
- A large plastic container or deep tray
- A selection of rocks and pebbles
- Water
- Access to a laminator or waterproof plastic bags
- [Rockpool Creature Sheet](#)
- [Rockpool Spotter Sheet](#) and pen for each group.

# Let's go to the beach!

## Part 1

### Beach fun

1. Select the items you want to take to the 'beach'.
2. Get on the 'bus' or 'train'. As you're travelling, describe what you can see out of the window.
3. When you arrive at the seaside, close your eyes and take it in turns to describe what you can hear, smell and feel.
4. Role play activities you might do at the beach, like setting out picnic blankets, putting on sunhats and sunglasses, playing frisbee.
5. To simulate the seashore, lay out a rope curved like waves breaking. Run towards the water and jump the waves.
6. What does the water look like? Is it a sunny day? Can you see reflections? Are there any trees, plants or animals?
7. Your time at the beach is ending. Collect your things. What do you need to remember when you leave the beach? Are there any items it might be easy for forget?
8. Get back on the bus or train and head home.

## Split into groups

Split into small groups. One group explores the rockpool while the others make paper plate creatures.

## Part 2

### Rockpool explorers

1. Set up the rockpool using the instructions on the [Rockpool instruction sheet](#). Take it in turns to turn over the rocks and find the creatures.
2. Mark off what you find on the [Rockpool Spotter Sheet](#).

## Part 3

### Paper plate challenge

Use your imagination to create a marine animal using a paper plate and craft materials. You could get ideas from the [inspiration sheet](#) or think of your own idea.

Once everyone has finished, vote for the winning creature. You could vote for the most imaginative or original design.

### Leave nothing but footprints

80% of litter in the ocean comes from the land. Anything left on the beach at the end of a visit can be washed into the sea and harm marine life. This activity is a great opportunity to talk about the importance of always cleaning up properly before leaving the beach. If bins are full, don't leave rubbish next to them, take it home.



# Make your own rockpool

## What to do

1. Print the [Rockpool creature sheet](#) in colour.
2. Laminate the sheets and cut out the pictures.
3. Scatter sand across the bottom of the container or tray.
4. Place the rocks and pebbles randomly in the container and cover with water.
5. Place the 'creatures' in the correct places in the water, under rocks, at the bottom of the pool or on the side.
6. Challenge your group to be rockpool explorers using our [Rockpool Spotter Sheet](#).

## Where to place the creatures

**On the side above water:** barnacles, beadlet anemone, common limpet, dog whelk, grey top shell, mussel, purple/flat top shell, shore crab

**On the side under water:** bladderwrack, common periwinkle, common starfish, snakelocks anemone

**Under rocks:** breadcrumb sponge, common blenny, common whelk, cushion star, hermit crab, painted top shell, prawn, rock goby, sandhopper, star ascidian, tompot blenny

**In the water:** brittle star, cat shark egg case, pipefish, sea scorpion, skae ray egg case, velvet swimming crab

**Bottom of the pool:** cockle, cuttlebone, razorshell

## You will need:

- **large plastic container or deep tray**
- **rocks, pebbles, and sand**
- **water**
- **sticky tape or adhesive tack**
- **access to a colour printer and laminator**
- [Rockpool Creature Sheet](#)
- [Rockpool Spotter Sheet](#)



Use our [spotter sheet](#) when rockpooling

# Rockpool Creature Sheet

Print out, laminate, cut out and stick **around the sides** of your 'rockpool'.



**Dog whelk**



**Barnacles**



**Grey top shell**



**Common limpet**



**Mussels**



**Shore crab**



**Beadlet anemone**



**Purple/flat top shell**

Print out, laminate, cut out and stick around the side of your 'rockpool' below the water.



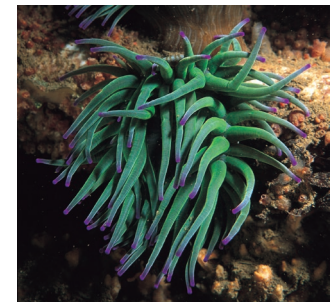
**Bladderwrack**



**Common periwinkle**



**Common starfish**



**Snakelocks anemone**

# Rockpool Creature Sheet

Print out, laminate, cut out and stick **under rocks**.



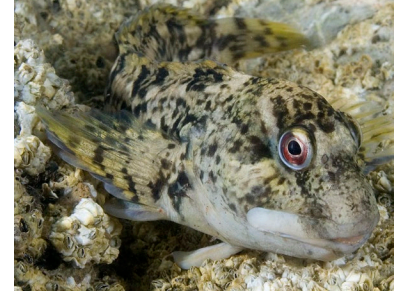
**Common whelk**



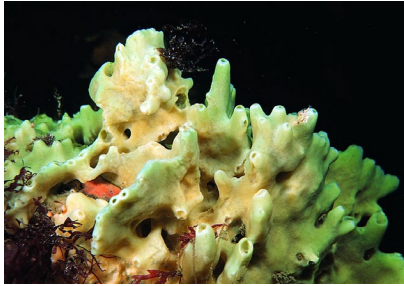
**Tompot blenny**



**Star ascidian**



**Common blenny**



**Breadcrumb sponge**



**Cushion star**



**Hermit crab**



**Prawn**



**Painted topshell**



**Sandhopper**



**Rock goby**

# Rockpool Creature Sheet

Print out, laminate, cut out and place them **in the water**.



Catshark egg case



Brittle star



Velvet swimming crab



Sea scorpion



Pipefish



Skate/ray egg case

Print out, laminate, cut out and stick them to the **floor** of the 'rockpool'.



Cuttlebone



Cockle



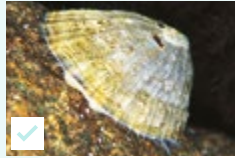
Razorshell

# Rockpool Spotter Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Barnacles



Common limpet



Painted top shell



Purple/flat top shell



Grey top shell



Cockle



Razorshell



Common whelk



Dog whelk



Common starfish



Cushion star



Beadlet anemone



Common periwinkle



Cuttlebone



Skate/Ray egg case



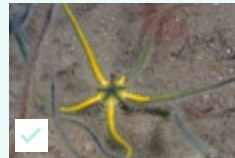
Catshark egg case



Snakelocks anemone



Breadcrumb sponge



Brittle star



Star ascidian



Bladderwrack



Velvet swimming crab



Hermit crab



Common shore crab



Common blenny



Rock goby



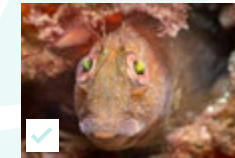
Prawn



Mussel



Pipefish



Tompot blenny



Sea scorpion



Sandhopper

# Paper plate creatures

## What will you make?

Here are some ideas of creatures to make with your paper plate. Use these as inspiration or think of your own creature.

