

TIDAL ZONE INFORMATION

I. Upper Zone

A. Barnacle - animal

1. Most numerous animals in upper zone
2. Attach to rocks
3. Only able to eat, breathe, and get rid of waste when covered by water
4. Only under water for short periods of time during the highest high tides
5. When not covered by water, are in resting stage

B. Limpet - animal

1. Shape reduces wave impact
2. Cling tightly to rocks
3. Often found in cracks and holes in rocks, or between other tightly attached animals

C. Rockweed - plant

1. Flexibility helps withstand pounding of waves
2. Provides a hiding spot for animals

II. Middle Zone

A. Mussel - animal

1. Most numerous animal found in the middle zone
2. Attach themselves to rocks and to each other by long threads
 - a. This “mat” of mussels forms a protected area for many animals

B. Goose-necked barnacle - animal

1. Often live near or with the mussels

C. Crab - animal

1. Can crawl into a cooler or wetter spot during low tide

D. Anemone - animal

1. Attach to rocks
2. Cover body with shell fragments and small rocks to reflect sunlight
3. Hold water in body to help them survive until high tide
4. Also found in Lower Zone

E. Animals found in pools and cracks in rocks

1. Chiton
2. Sculpin - camouflaged fish
3. Black turban snail
4. Hermit crab
 - a. Often live in empty black turban snail shells

The boundary between the Middle and Lower Zone is not always clear.

III. Lower Zone

A. Sea palm - plant

1. Requires water, but can survive out of water for a short period of time during lowest low tide

B. Sea hare - animal

1. Requires water, but can survive out of water for a short period of time during lowest low tide

C. Other animals

1. Urchin
2. Sea star
3. Brittle star (if sandy bottom)
4. Octopus (usually found in deep water)

TIDAL ZONES

spray zone

upper zone

mid zone

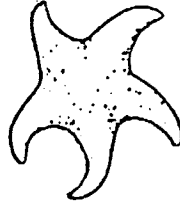
lower zone

rock crevice

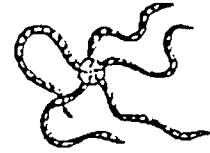
TIDAL ORGANISMS



Octopus



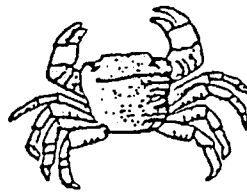
Sea Star



Brittle Star



Sea Anemone



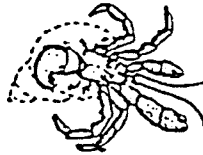
Shore Crab



Mussel



Black Turban Snail



Hermit Crab



Chiton



Rock Weed



Sea Urchin



Sea Palm



Goose Necked Barnacle



Limpet



Sculpin



Barnacle



Sea Hare

TIDAL ZONES

Answer Key

