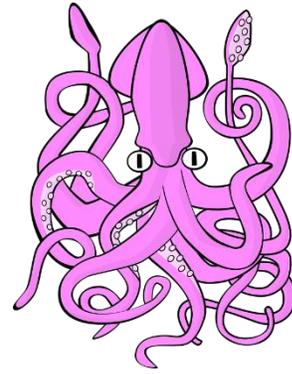


Pre-Program Resources

Squid Dissection



Overview:

Students will explore a squid specimen with an Ocean Wise educator. Students will examine the morphological features of the squid, discuss the purpose of those features, and how the adaptations allow the squid to be successful in its environment.

Key Concepts:

- Adaptions are influenced by environmental pressures, both abiotic and biotic
- There are trade-offs, both advantages and disadvantages to adaptations
- Animals have important responsibilities and roles in their environment
- Predator and prey interactions are important for the health of an ecosystem
- Human actions have a lasting impact on animals and their ecosystems
- Proper animal specimen handling

Key Vocabulary:

Adaptation = a change or the process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment

Cephalopod = Order in the Mollusca phyla, consisting of Squids, Octopus and Cuttlefish

Camouflage = to hide or disguise an object or organism

Chromatophores = pigment-filled, light reflecting cells allowing for colour change

Invertebrate = An animal that has no spine or bones of marrow or cartilage

Discussion Questions

- What does our environment look like? Identify the abiotic and biotic factors within your own ecosystem?
- What challenges to animals face in your ecosystem? How have these animals adapted to living in our environment?
- What are the benefits and disadvantages of being an invertebrate?

Videos

Baby Octopuses at the Vancouver Aquarium

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5MHJbxWO6OM&t=3s>

Why We're Suckers for the Giant Pacific Octopus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYK2i2tR7gU>

You're Not Hallucinating. That's Just Squid Skin | Deep Look;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wtLrllKvJE>

Why the octopus brain is so extraordinary – Cláudio L. Guerra:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLkKiVIBxXU&t=171s>

Extra Facts

Ocean Wise Education; <https://education.ocean.org/>

Take the Plastic Pledge! <http://ocean.org/plastic-wise/>

Cockles, Clams and Octopus in Howe Sound: <https://www.vanaqua.org/marine-biodiversity/molluscs/cockles-clams-and-octopus-in-howe-sound/>

Octopus and Squid: <https://www.vanaqua.org/learn/aquafacts/invertebrates/octopuses-and-squids>