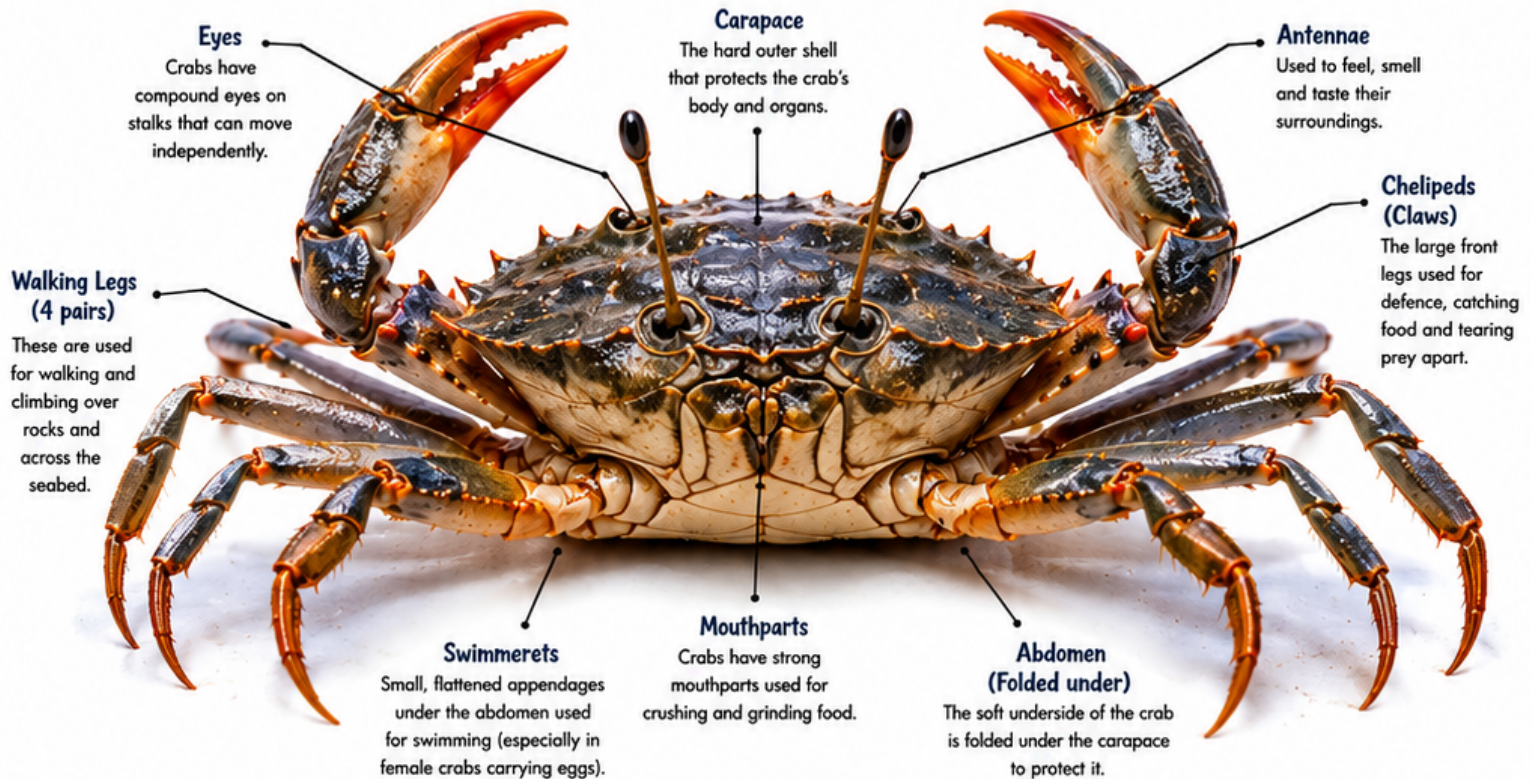




Anatomy of a Crab

Study the diagram carefully. Read the information below and answer the questions.



About Crabs

Crabs are decapod crustaceans. They have ten legs – the first pair are claws, and the other four pairs are used for walking. Their exoskeleton is made of chitin, which is very hard and protects them from predators.

Crabs breathe using gills, which are located inside their carapace. They are cold-blooded and live in many habitats including rock pools, sandy beaches, estuaries and deep oceans.

Crabs are omnivores, meaning they eat both plants and animals. They feed on algae, shellfish, small invertebrates, dead matter and sometimes small fish.



Functions of Each Part

Part	Function
1. Carapace	
2. Eyes	
3. Antennae	
4. Chelipeds (Claws)	
5. Walking Legs	
6. Swimmerets	
7. Mouthparts	
8. Abdomen	

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main purpose of a crab's carapace?

2. How do crabs use their antennae?

3. Why do crabs have five pairs of legs?

4. Describe the difference in function between the chelipeds (claws) and the walking legs.

5. What type of respiration do crabs have and why is this beneficial when they are in rock pools?

6. What would happen if a crab lost a leg?

7. Crabs moult (shed their exoskeleton) as they grow. Explain why this process is necessary.

8. Give two examples of where crabs might hide to avoid predators.

