Name: _____ Date: _____

Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

Circle group

Twice a day, the sea creeps up the shore and slides back. This is called the tide. When the tide goes out, it leaves small pools of salt water in the rocks. These are tide pools. Many animals live in them.

A tide pool is a hard place to live. When the water is gone, the sun can make the pool hot. Rain can make the water less salty. Then the tide comes back and waves crash over the rocks. The animals must handle all of this.

Many have clever ways to cope. A barnacle shuts its small shell tight to keep moisture in. A mussel holds the rock with strong threads, so waves cannot sweep it off. A sea anemone pulls in its arms and looks like a lump of jelly. Hermit crabs scurry from pool to pool.

If you visit a tide pool, walk slowly and look with your eyes. Put rocks back where you found them. Small animals may live underneath.

Questions

1. What is a tide?

_____

_____

2. How are tide pools made?

_____

_____

3. What does a barnacle do to keep moisture in?

_____

_____

4. How does a mussel stay on the rock?

_____

_____

5. Why is a tide pool a hard place to live?

_____

_____

6. Why should you put rocks back where you found them?

_____

_____

Words to know

tide: the slow rise and fall of the sea each day
barnacle: a small sea animal that sticks to rocks and lives in a hard shell
anemone: a sea animal with soft arms that looks a bit like a flower
moisture: a small amount of water

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

Triangle group

Twice a day, the ocean creeps up the shore and then slides back down again. This rising and falling of the sea is called the tide. When the tide goes out, it leaves small pools of salt water among the rocks. These are tide pools, and living things make their homes in them.

A tide pool is a hard place to live. When the water is gone, the sun can heat the pool and make it very warm. Rain can make the water less salty. Then the tide comes back, and waves crash over everything. The animals here must handle all of these changes.

Many of them have clever ways to cope. A barnacle shuts its tiny shell tight to keep moisture inside until the water returns. A mussel holds onto the rock with strong threads so the waves cannot sweep it away. A sea anemone pulls in its arms and looks like a lump of jelly. Hermit crabs scurry from pool to pool.

If you visit a tide pool, walk slowly and look with your eyes. Put rocks back exactly where you found them, because small animals may be living underneath.

Questions

1. What is a tide?

_____

_____

2. How are tide pools made?

_____

_____

3. What does a barnacle do to keep moisture in?

_____

_____

4. How does a mussel stay on the rock when waves come?

_____

_____

5. Why is a tide pool a hard place to live?

_____

_____

6. Why should a visitor put rocks back where they found them?

_____

_____

Words to know

tide: the slow rise and fall of the sea each day
barnacle: a small sea animal that sticks to rocks and lives in a hard shell
anemone: a sea animal with soft arms that looks a bit like a flower
moisture: a small amount of water

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

Square group

Twice every day, the ocean creeps up the shore and then withdraws again, a pattern known as the tide. When the tide goes out, it leaves behind small pools of salt water trapped among the rocks. These tide pools are home to a surprising variety of living things.

Life in a tide pool is demanding. Once the water has drained away, the sun can heat the pool until it becomes very warm, and a rainstorm can make the water less salty than usual. Then the tide returns, and waves crash over everything in sight. The animals that live here must endure all of these sudden changes.

Many of them have clever ways of coping. A barnacle seals its tiny shell tightly to keep moisture inside until the water comes back. A mussel clings to the rock with strong threads so that the waves cannot sweep it away. A sea anemone draws in its arms and resembles a lump of jelly, while hermit crabs scurry from one pool to another.

If you ever visit a tide pool, walk slowly and look carefully with your eyes. Return rocks to exactly where you found them, because small animals may be sheltering underneath.

Questions

1. What is the tide?

_____

_____

2. How do tide pools come to exist?

_____

_____

3. How does a barnacle keep moisture inside?

_____

_____

4. How does a mussel avoid being swept away by waves?

_____

_____

5. What makes a tide pool such a demanding home?

_____

_____

6. Why is it important to return rocks to where you found them?

_____

_____

Words to know

tide: the slow rise and fall of the sea each day
barnacle: a small sea animal that sticks to rocks and lives in a hard shell
anemone: a sea animal with soft arms that looks a bit like a flower
moisture: a small amount of water

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

Easier · 164 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.9

1. The rising and falling of the sea.
2. The tide goes out and leaves small pools of salt water in the rocks.
3. It shuts its small shell tight.
4. It holds on with strong threads.
5. The water can get hot or less salty, and waves crash over it.
6. Small animals may live underneath.

Triangle: Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

This passage · 192 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.8

1. The rising and falling of the sea.
2. The tide goes out and leaves small pools of salt water among the rocks.
3. It shuts its tiny shell tight.
4. It holds on with strong threads.
5. The water can get hot or less salty, and waves crash over it when the tide returns.
6. Small animals may be living underneath them.

Square: Tide Pool Life: A Home That Floods Twice a Day

Harder · 199 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.8

1. The rising and falling of the ocean each day.
2. When the tide goes out, it leaves small pools of salt water among the rocks.
3. It seals its tiny shell tightly.
4. It clings to the rock with strong threads.
5. The water can become hot or less salty, and waves crash over it when the tide returns.
6. Small animals may be sheltering underneath them.