



# Module 1: My favorite marine animal

## Learning objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Recognise and name marine invertebrate species
2. Distinguish the life style (ecology) of certain marine invertebrate species

## Time requirements and tasks

- 1 hour of group work, incl. a short presentation

## Suggested audience

- This activity is appropriate for **school classes**.

## Prior knowledge

- None

## Instructions

Work in groups of two – that's more fun. Discuss and select one species (or group of species) that you find particularly interesting. For example, you can pick the sugar starfish *Asterias rubens* or the group it belongs to called Asteroidea. Explore the field guide and read about your species, its special features and life style. Then watch some movies on your favorite species by browsing the [Collection page](#) or by searching the “[Talk](#)” channel (e.g. write *Asterias* in the search box of the talk channel). Now discuss in your group what makes your species of choice so special. Prepare a short presentation or write a short story describing the abiotic environment of your species, e.g., does it live on mud, gravel, attached to rocks, is it buried or sticking out of the substrate? Also describe its biotic environment, for example does it co-occur with other species, and why. Is it getting shelter, or sharing food with others? Or is it competing with other species for a nice place on the rocks. Present your favorite animal(s) to the other groups.

## Sample discussion questions

1. What's your favorite marine animal?
2. What group does it belong to, and what is its Latin name?
3. How do you recognize it?
4. How does it live?
5. Where does it live?
6. What does it eat?
7. Who may eat it?
8. Does your animal live together with other animals?