

AMAZING ANIMALS: OCTOPUS

Octopuses live in the seas all over the world, and are the most intelligent of all the animals that do not have a back bone. (We call animals without a backbone *invertebrates*).

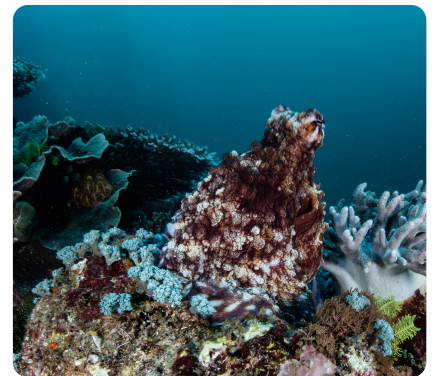
Octopuses like to play, are very curious, and can learn new things like figuring out puzzles. In the wild they use tools such as coconuts to protect their soft bodies from other animals.



They have a brain in each of their eight arms as well as their regular brain.

Not only do octopuses have nine brains, they also have three hearts!

Clever: an octopus hiding inside some shells



There is an octopus hiding in each of these photos. Can you spot them all?

Octopuses are some of the most difficult animals to spot because their skin changes colour and pattern to blend in with the

world around them. If they are choosing to hide, even if you look directly at an octopus, you probably won't realise it.



Because octopuses have no bones in their bodies, they can squeeze through tiny holes and cracks and escape easily.

Here you can see an octopus escaping a box through a 2.5cm hole!

The Blue ringed octopus is the only octopus that is deadly to humans. It is highly venomous.



Discuss the answers to the following questions:

1. What do you find the most amazing about octopuses? Why?
2. List as many things as possible that are different between octopuses and humans.
3. If you could do one thing that octopuses can do, what would it be and why?



Now write three facts that you have just read into your book. Then write what you feel about what you have learnt.