

## Appendix 4: "Critter" Cards

Cut on dashed line & fold along the solid line



### **Acorn Barnacle**

*Chthamalus fragilis*, *Balanus improviusus*, *B. trigonus*, etc.

Location: It attaches to hard surfaces in splash and high tide zones

Food: Filter phytoplankton and zooplankton when submerge.

Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics:

Barnacles, which are crustaceans like crabs, have 10 hairy legs to filter food and can close their valve tight to prevent drying at low tides.



### **Atlantic Mud Crab**

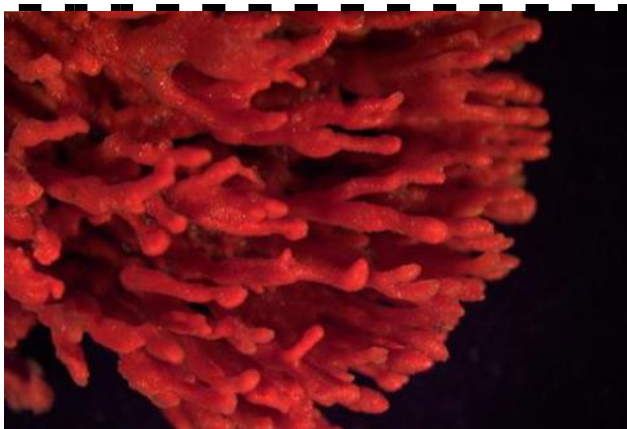
*Panopeus herbstii*

Location: crawls in mid *intertidal* to *subtidal* areas, hiding in damp places at low tides.

Food: Small oysters, worms, and crabs

Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics:

A crustacean with strong crushing claws, legs to hold on tight.



### **Red Beard Sponge**

*Microciona prolifera*

Location: attached to hard surfaces and shells where they are almost always wet.

Food: Filter plankton

Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics:

*The sponge has a crusty texture that most animals don't eat.*



**Ribbed Mussel**

*Geukensia demissa*

Location: mid- to low intertidal zones

Food: Filter Plankton

Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics:

Attach to marsh grass roots or solid objects with tough "byssus" threads, secreted by a gland.



**Eastern Oyster**

*Crassostrea virginica*

Location: mid to low tide zone

Food: Filter Plankton

Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics:

Attach to hard surfaces, often other oysters, forming clusters. They close tightly during low tides.



**Sea Squirt (Sea Grape)**

*Molgula manhattensis*,

Location: low to subtidal

Food: filter phytoplankton, zooplankton, oyster and mussel larvae, and other suspended organic materials through siphons. At low tide, they squeeze out water; this is why they are also called "sea squirts"

Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics:

Attach to hard surfaces in colonies



**Pale Anemone**

*Aiptasia pallida*

Location: mid intertidal zone

Food: Stinging tentacles capture larval animals and even fish. Some of their cells contain symbiotic dinoflagellates that photosynthesize, providing more food for the anemone. Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics: Form dense colonies that help prevent desiccation at low tides.



**Sea Whip**

*Leptogorgia virgulata*

Location: low tide to subtidal waters

Food: Capture plankton using tentacles  
Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics: Attach to hard surfaces and have a hard flexible covering for colonial polyps.

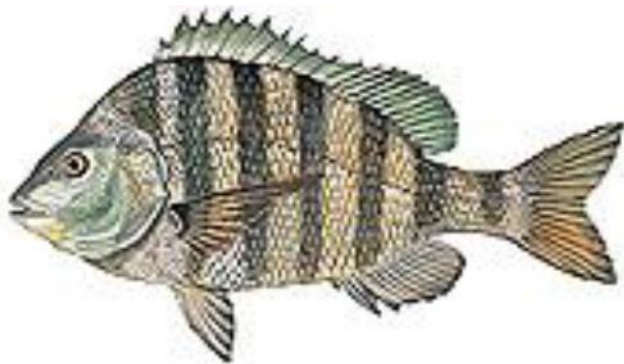


**Naked goby**

*Gobiosoma bosc*

Location: subtidal, staying along the bottom

Food: shrimps, crabs, worms and amphipods  
Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics: They hide in crevices in oysters and sea squirts from predators.



**Sheepshead**

*Archosargus probatocephalus*

Location: subtidal, often found near oyster reefs and the pilings of piers, docks, and bridges

Food: barnacles, oysters, mussels, small crabs, and shrimp  
Behaviors, Adaptations, Characteristics: Has several rows of stumpy teeth, which help to crush its prey