

# Octopus



## Octopus Quick Facts

- There are around 300 known species of octopus found globally.
  - The star-sucker pygmy octopus is the world's smallest at less than one inch long!
  - The largest octopus is the Great Pacific Octopus which can reach up to 30 feet long!
- Octopuses are invertebrates in the mollusk family and are closely related to squids!
- Octopuses are carnivores and feed on crustaceans such as crabs, shrimp, and lobsters, but can also prey on larger animals - even sharks!



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- Here in the Gulf of Maine we have one native species, the Common Octopus.
- Octopuses have three hearts and blue blood!
- Octopuses have the ability to change their color and texture for camouflage to better match their surroundings.
  - Can you spot the octopus in this picture? →
- Octopuses are very smart and have been known to complete tasks such as opening bottles and using tools!
  - Octopuses in captivity are given puzzles to keep them busy. In non-stimulating environments octopuses will sometimes eat their own arms when they are bored.

