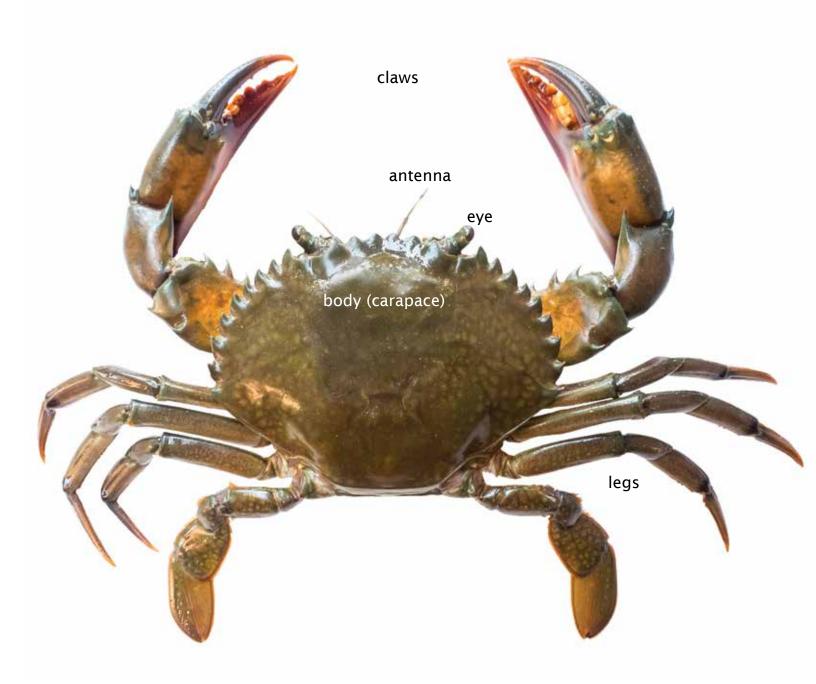
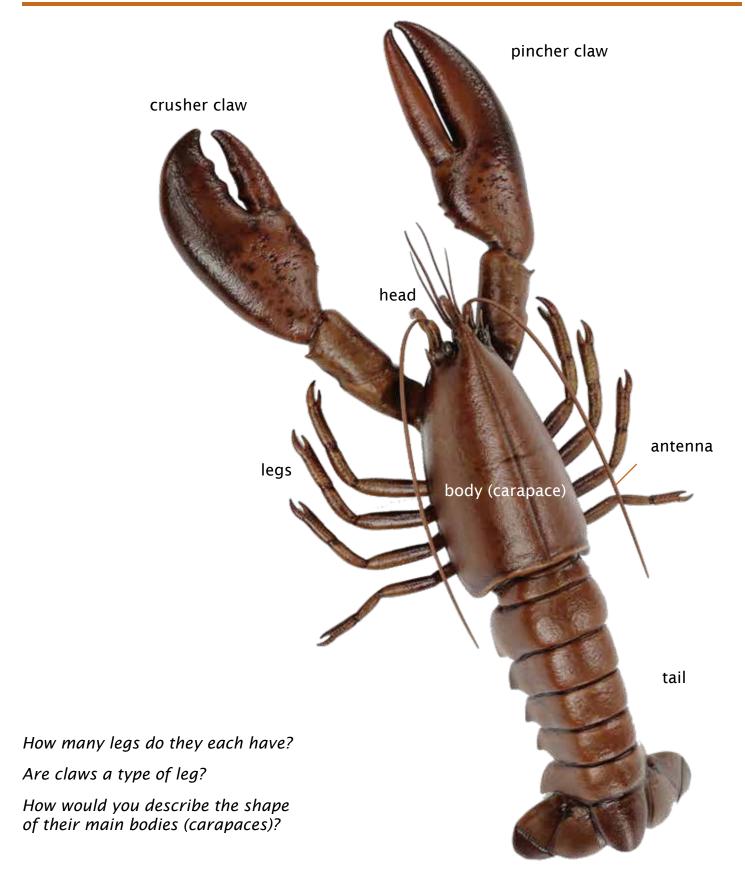
For Creative Minds

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Crab Body Parts



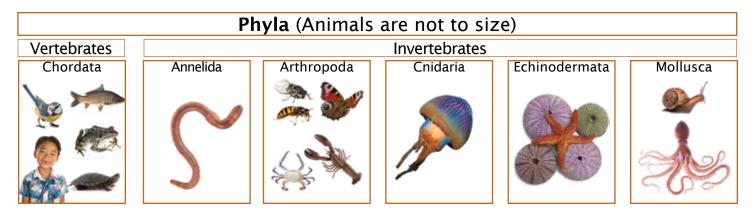
Lobster Body Parts



Classifying Crabs and Lobsters

Within the Animal Kingdom, animals are initially divided into phyla. Within each phylum, the animals are then sorted into classes, then into orders, suborders, families and finally into a genus and species. No matter what language scientists speak, they use animals' genus and species to identify specific animals. Those names are always in Latin.

Let's see how crabs and lobsters are classified.



You may have already studied and learned about the five classes of animals that have backbones (Vertebrates/Chordata): mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, and amphibians.

Did you know that there are actually more animals on the earth that do NOT have backbones? They are called invertebrates. Just like the five vertebrate classes, the invertebrate phylum is also broken into classes as shown above.

Crabs and lobsters (Crustaceans) are Arthropods (Arthropda class). Other arthropods include spiders (Arachnids), centipedes and millipedes (Myriapoda), and insects (Hexapoda).



Crustaceans mostly live in the water (aquatic). They have segmented bodies and two pairs of antennae. They have a hard-shell skeleton on the outside of their bodies (exoskeleton) that they shed with a new one growing underneath (molt) as they grow.

Match the Arthropod

Can you identify which animals belong to the Arthropod classes?

Animals shown are not to size.

Arachnid: air-breathing animals with four pairs of legs (spiders & scorpions)

Crustacean: aquatic animals with segmented bodies, antennae, and exoskeleton

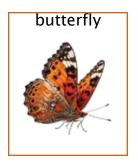
Hexopoda: animal with six legs and may have wings (insects)

Myriapoda: animal with a long body and similar segments (centipedes & millipedes)































Note to adult: have children explain why they think the animal fits which group.

Answers:

Arachnid: black widow spider, wolf spider

Crustacean: blue crab, fiddler crab, hermit crab, lobster, spiny lobster, shrimp

Hexopoda: beetle, butterfly, dragonfly, fly, wasp

Myriapoda: centipede, millepede