

Crab facts

1. What are the characteristics of a crab?

Crabs are **crustaceans**. They have a hard exoskeleton and a tiny abdomen beneath it. There are about 6,700 species of crabs that exist in different habitats. They are able to walk in all directions, but they prefer to walk and run sideways. As they have 10 legs, they are called decapods. They belong to an omnivorous group of animals, feeding on algae, mollusks, and worms. They have gills for breathing. They have two eyes, usually on stalks. They are able to survive in freshwater and marine water as well as on land. Each species of crab has a different lifespan. Small species have a lifespan between 3 and 10 years, while large species of crab have a lifespan between 40 and 100 years.

2. Do you know what is called a group of crabs?

"Cast" or "swarm" are the words for a group of crabs.

3. Do you know which is the largest species of crab?

Macrocheiria kaempferia, commonly known as the Japanese spider crab, is the largest of all crab species. It has a leg span of about 12.5 feet, 10 legs, and a carapace of 12 to 15 inches. They have mottled orange and white colors. They have a small-sized body compared to their legs. They are located in the Pacific Ocean near Japan. These are nocturnal animals that feed on algae, mollusks, and dead animals. They are able to regenerate their lost limbs and shed their shell. They have a lifespan of up to 100 years.

4. Which is the smallest species of crab?

Pinnotheres ipsum, commonly known as the pea crab, belongs to the family Pinnotheridae and is one of the smallest crab species. It is a very tiny crab that generally exists in a size range from 6 to 12 mm. These are symbiotic or parasitic and live inside the bodies of hosts such as mollusks and oysters. They are soft-bodied animals that range in color from translucent to white.

References

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