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Mantis Shrimp



Getting to know...

the Mantis Shrimp

Region & Habitat	Found in warm, shallow tropical and subtropical water, Indian & Pacific Oceans.
Classification	Malacostraca
Size	Average length of 10 cm to 30 cm long
Nocturnal or Diurnal	Both, depending on the species
Conservation Status	No threats/ Abundant
Average Lifespan	3 - 6 years, but up to 20 years
Scientific Name	Stomatopoda
Diet	Some eat soft-bodied prey, others like clams, snails and crustaceans
Fun Fact	The eyes of Mantis Shrimp can detect both cancer and neuron activity!



Don't be fooled by the Mantis Shrimp – they are neither shrimp nor mantis! They are classified as stomatopods, a relative of crabs and lobsters. There are over 450 species of Mantis Shrimp, all of them with a variety of different color combinations. Peacock Mantis Shrimp get their name from their kaleidoscope shell, much like a peacock's tail. Zebra Mantis Shrimp, the largest of the species, have cream and brown stripes. And the Red Sea Mantis Shrimp are beige with thin red stripes and a dark rear

end, just to name a few. When hunting prey, there are two types of hunting for mantis shrimp: spearing and smashing. Smashing mantis shrimp have forelimbs that are calcified; they use them to strike both predators and prey. Spearing Mantis Shrimp have sharp forelimbs that they use to pierce their predators and prey. Smashing Mantis Shrimp have been known to be strong enough to punch their way through aquarium glass! Mantis Shrimp are highly intelligent, exhibiting complex social behavior. They show a great capacity to learn and retain knowledge. They can even recognize and interact with other mantis shrimp. Located at the end of stalks, the Mantis Shrimp's eyes are among the most complex eyes in the animal kingdom! Their eyes can move independently of each other. Humans have three types of photoreceptors in their eyes used to perceive blue, green, and red light; Mantis Shrimp, however, have a staggering 12 different types of photoreceptors that can see 12 different wavelengths of light!

Word Search

K	Z	V	L	S	U	B	T	R	O	P	I	C	A	L	Q
V	T	I	Q	E	T	Z	Q	J	J	P	P	E	L	P	U
O	O	Q	K	D	E	K	Y	U	Y	M	X	M	D	H	J
H	H	C	K	J	A	W	Q	O	C	M	E	N	I	O	O
P	S	T	O	M	A	T	O	P	O	D	D	D	I	T	T
Z	X	M	A	W	A	W	U	P	Y	B	C	Q	C	O	R
I	Z	Q	A	S	T	B	H	E	J	C	R	S	O	R	I
D	K	C	E	S	J	D	J	D	L	I	U	K	O	E	N
K	U	M	H	V	H	Q	M	M	X	D	S	S	G	C	O
G	F	O	R	E	L	I	M	B	S	T	T	U	N	E	C
B	V	M	T	U	D	Z	N	Z	G	I	A	L	S	P	U
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R	H	H	Z	H	T	R	L	W	D	E	E	O	X	O	A
B	F	I	C	L	A	W	S	Q	D	H	A	M	N	R	R
T	S	Z	I	X	S	T	B	E	J	N	N	Q	U	S	Y
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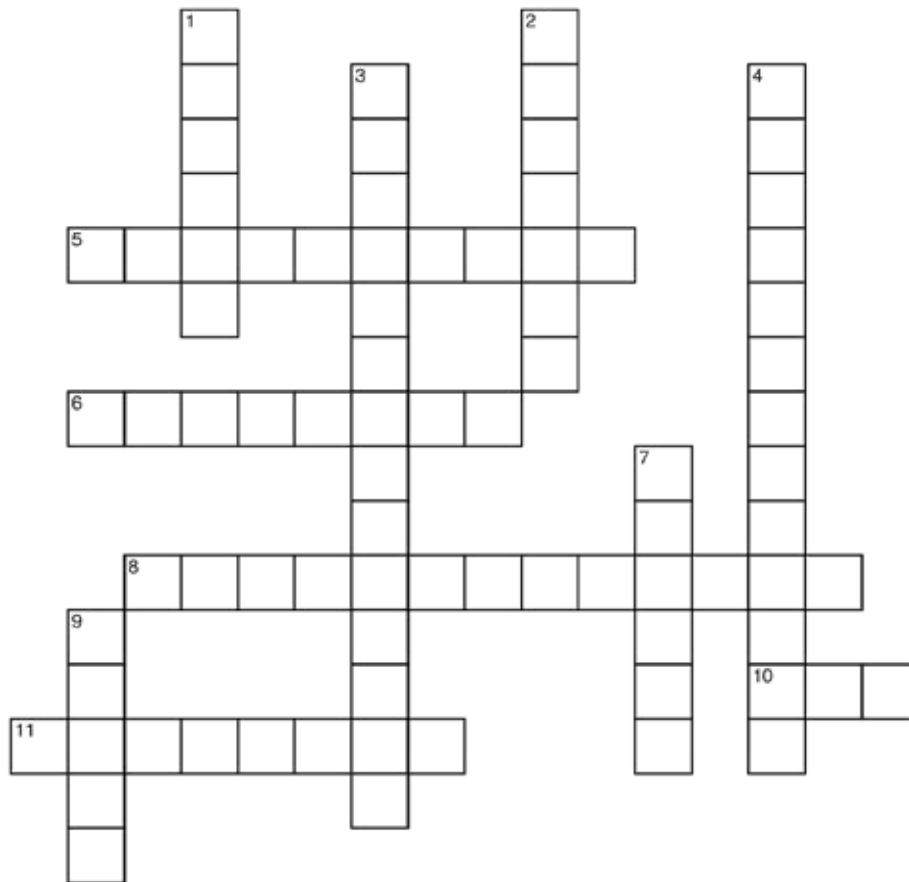
Stomatopod
Photoreceptors
Trinocular
Claws

Spearing
Crustaceans
Subtropical

Smashing
Mollusks
Forelimbs

Crossword

Solve the following puzzle based on the clues given!



Across

- [5] Mantis Shrimp's scientific order
- [6] Mantis type with club-like forelimbs
- [8] Mantis Shrimp eyes can move
- [10] Red ____ Mantis
- [11] Mantis Shrimp's crustacean relatives (8)

Down

- [1] Eye-detectable brain cell activity
- [2] Colorful Mantis, like a bird
- [3] Light-detecting cells in eyes
- [4] Smashers can break this glass
- [7] Disease detectable by Mantis Shrimp eyes
- [9] Zebra Mantis stripe color

Solutions

