

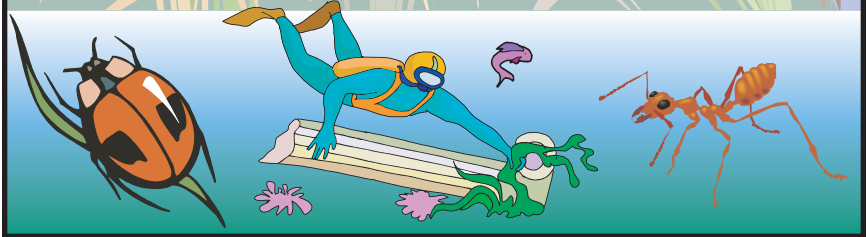
# Word Search

Find the environmental words and circle them.



ocean	planets	species	remote	rainforest
polluted	strange	extinct	discover	insect

E X T I N C T G R  
 I E R P L P S D A  
 N A T L R E P I I  
 S T R A N G E S N  
 E A H N N E C C F  
 C O C E A N I O O  
 T J I T K O E V R  
 F E A S H E S E E  
 T R E M O T E R S  
 P O L L U T E D T



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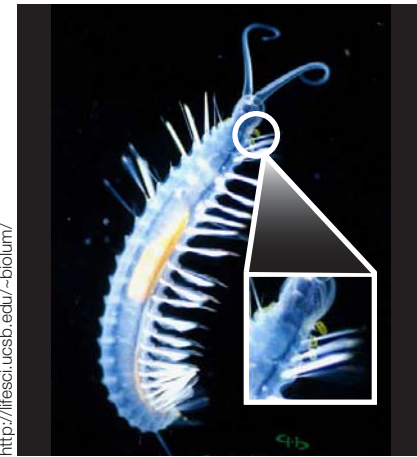
## SCIENTISTS DISCOVER STRANGE NEW UNDERSEA SPECIES

By Ron Fridell

Oceans are getting polluted. The planet is getting hotter. These changes are putting animals in danger. Some animal species could die out. Scientists are racing to discover new species before they become extinct and disappear forever.

New species live in remote places. Recently undersea robots searched the ocean bottom two miles deep off the coast of California. The robots brought back seven new species of glowing sea worms. Way down deep, animals must make their own light. These new sea worms have glowing green sacs on their heads. Why are the sacs there? The worms can drop them like little green bombs to confuse hungry enemies.

See Undersea Species on page 2



Courtesy of Steve Haddock/  
<http://ifesci.ucsb.edu/~biolum/>

The green ovals are the glowing "bombs" that are meant to distract predators.

## UNDERSEA SPECIES

Continued from page 1

Scientists have also discovered new species of fish in shallow ocean waters. These fish can swim, of course. But they prefer to walk. That's right. They walk along the sea floor on special fins that look like hands. And that's why they are called handfish.

Fifty million years ago handfish walked on ocean floors all around the world. Today they are found only off the coasts of Australia. Every year there are fewer handfish. Scientists hope to help save these strange and beautiful creatures from extinction.



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The spotted handfish may have a toxic skin that kills most attackers.

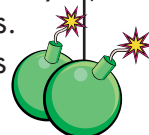
### Write About This!

Why do you think people pollute the air, land, and water? Make a list of three or more reasons. Use the list to help you answer the question.

### Word Wise

The new species of sea worms are called *Swima bombiviridis*. *Swima* means that they are good swimmers. *Bombiviridis* means "green bomber."

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## New Rainforest Species

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Oceans aren't the only places with new species. Rainforests have them too. Scientists have discovered a new kind of stick insect in a rainforest in Asia. This creature can grow to be two feet in length. It is the world's longest known insect.



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National Geographic Stock

The Pinocchio frog was discovered on a bag of rice at a scientist's campsite.

Scientists found another strange new animal in a rainforest in Asia. It is known as the Pinocchio frog. Why? Look at the frog's nose. Pinocchio is a make-believe character whose nose grew longer whenever he told a lie. The Pinocchio frog blows air through its nose when it calls out, and its nose grows bigger. Just like Pinocchio's.



Courtesy of WWF's  
Heart of Borneo Initiative

Stick insects don't bite people. They eat leaves.

### Do You Know?

Scientists who search rainforests for new species camp out for weeks at a time far from the comforts of civilization. The weather is extreme, but discovering these new creatures makes up for all the hardships.



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Valery Kirsanov