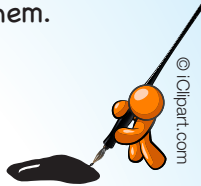


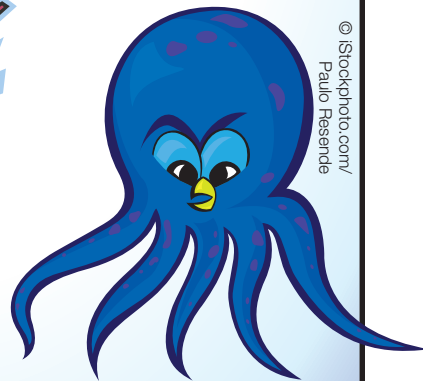
# OCTOPUS WORD SEARCH

Find the octopus words and circle them.

tentacles	eight	builders	swim
beak	ocean	strong	ink



O C E A N H B E T  
 D I R A L P U A R  
 Y B L S E M I W O  
 T E N T A C L E S  
 W A H R V E D A W  
 A K H O M P E N I  
 S J I N K O R E M  
 T E I G H T S K U



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## The Octopus and the Coconut:

*Grab That Coconut and Run!*

By Ron Fridell

Birds make homes with twigs and stems. Beavers use mud and branches. Now scientists have added the octopus to the list of animals that build their own homes. Octopuses make their homes at the bottom of the sea.

Scientists traveled to Asia, where they swam in the ocean with octopuses to see what they could learn. Some of what they saw surprised them.



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The octopuses they saw build their undersea homes from coconut shells. People have cut these shells in half. After eating what's inside, they throw the shells into the sea. The octopuses collect the empty shells with their eight strong arms, called *tentacles*.



© Roger Steene

A coconut-shell octopus shelter

See Octopus on page 2

# Octopus

Continued from page 1



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The octopus grabs a shell and carries it across the sea floor.

© Roger Steane

The octopus uses its arms to twist the shell. It twists and pulls until the shell comes free from the muddy bottom. Now the octopus must get the mud out of the shell. So it shoots jets of water into it. And *whoosh*, out comes the mud.

Now the octopus lowers its tentacles around the shell and lifts it up. Then it carries the shell away. The octopus looks as if it's walking on tiptoes as it hurries away with its treasure. Imagine how the scientists felt to see such unusual behavior!

## Do You Know?

The octopus has a soft body. Beneath its strong coconut-shell home, it can stay safe from enemies.



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## Write About This!



© Erik Reis/  
Dreamstime.com

Write a funny story about a day in the life of a person who has four arms and four legs.

## FUN FACTS

An octopus can:

- grow a new tentacle if one is cut off;
- squirt clouds of ink to hide from its enemies;
- paralyze its prey with poison before eating it.



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An octopus has:

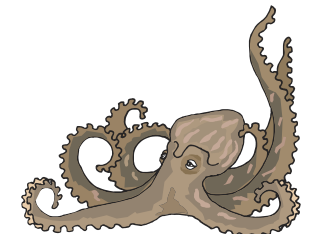
- an eye on each side of its head;
- a beak that looks like a parrot's;
- hundreds of suction cups on its tentacles, which it uses to grab things.



## Art Prompt



Create an advertising poster for an octopus clothing store.



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