## All About Crustaceans

Least Terns share their beach home with many others, including beach-living crustaceans like crabs. Crustaceans are animals with boneless bodies covered by hardened skin called an *exoskeleton*. Muscles are attached to the exoskeleton providing support and movement and also protects them from predators. They walk around on *jointed legs* and have two pairs of *antennas*, or feelers. Whilst Least Terns prefer fish, other birds make a tasty meal of crustaceans!

People from around the globe also eat crustaceans and perhaps you have too! Crabs, lobsters, shrimps (or prawns), pillbug and crayfish are all crustaceans. Barnacles are also crustaceans but do not move. Some crustaceans live in salt water while others live in freshwater. They can be found on land in rocky, sandy or muddy areas or under damp leaves on forest floors.

Crustaceans are *omnivores* which means they eat fungi, plant like algae and animals like small fish or eggs of other animals.

Now that we have covered some of the basic information about crustaceans, we would like you and a parent or friend to find out more about crabs, and write a fact file.





## Fact File

Crabs are\_\_\_\_\_

Parts of a crab

**Top View** 



