

## Woods Hole Science Aquarium



### Observe and Think

An activity sheet for students 7-12 years old

You can answer these questions by observing the animals, reading the signs, and thinking about what you are seeing and reading. To see our answers, send us an e-mail ([woodshole.aquarium@noaa.gov](mailto:woodshole.aquarium@noaa.gov)) or ask for an answer sheet when you sign in at the security desk.

1. Which claw on the lobster is called the “crusher?” What do you think the lobster does with this claw?
2. Which claw is called the “ripper?” What do you think the lobster does with this claw?
3. The toadfish has camouflage that helps it hide from other animals. What kinds of background can the toadfish blend into?
4. How many different colors can you find on the queen angelfish? What are they?
5. Why does the aquarium staff keep the conger eel’s tank dark?
6. How do northern puffer fish puff themselves up?
7. Why do they puff themselves up?
8. What three things does the sea robin do with its three pectoral fins?

9. Do flounder swim upright or on their sides?

10. Flat fish are called “flounder” or “sole.” How many species of flat fish can you find in the aquarium? (Hint: look on the bottoms of the tanks, especially in the sand.)

11. The ridged slipper lobster does not have ripper and crusher claws like the American lobster. Instead the slipper lobster has modified antennae shaped like shovels. What do you think the slipper lobster does with its antennae?

12. How many eyes can you see on the horseshoe crab?

13. What color is the horseshoe crab’s blood? (Hint: You’ll have to find this on a sign.)

14. Name three advantages fish get by swimming in schools.

This activity sheet was created by Christina Buford, a Jackson State University student who worked as a NOAA intern in the aquarium in the summer of 2004.