





by Natalie Lunis

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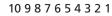
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Sponges are animals that live in the sea.

They have no brains, hearts, or blood.

They have no heads, arms, or legs.

They don't move around.

For a long time, people thought they were underwater plants.

Sponges
live in all
the world's
oceans.



Staying in Shape

There are about 5,000 kinds of sponges.

The smallest are the size of a pea.

The tallest are taller than most people.

Sponges can be shaped like barrels, tubes, antlers, or rocks.

Sponges have no backbones, but many do have skeletons. Their skeletons help them keep their unusual shapes.





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To learn more about sponges, visit www.bearportpublishing.com/NoBackbone





At one time, people thought that sponges were plants. After all, they can't move. Instead, they live at the bottom of the ocean attached to rocks and coral reefs. So how do sponges get their food? Dive into the weird and watery world of these colorful creatures to find out.



Crawling Crabs
Gooey Jellyfish
Prickly Sea Stars

Slimy Sea Slugs
Squirting Squids
Squishy Sponges



