

# Solitary Islands Marine Park

## PROJECTS

### *Explore the Rocky Shore*

The rocky shore can be a hard place for little plants and animals to survive. Many creatures need special adaptations to help them live on rocks, in pools and in the wave zone.

#### *Eco Search*

How many animals can you find on the rocky shore? Use the "ID Me" sheet to identify them, then tick the ones you have found.

Tick the word "rock pool" if you found the animal in a rock pool or tick the word "rocks" if you found them on or in between the rocks.

How many did you find in a rock pool? \_\_\_\_\_

How many did you find on the rocks? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the most common place for marine plants (seaweed) to be found?

\_\_\_\_\_



Circle where you think Occy might live?

Ocean

Mud

Beach

House

Rocks

Supermarket

Rock pool

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## Zonation

Some animals can live further away from the water than others, like the Little Noddy snail.



5mm  
*Nodilittorina unifasciata*

In your group place the square over the rocks, count how many Little Noddys you can find in the upper dry zone. Then as a group, count how many there are lower down in the wet zone (where the rocks are wet).

Record your results below;

Number in the lower zone;	Number in the higher zone;

The little plug that keeps the snail from drying out is called an **operculum**!! Use the magnify glass to see if you can see the operculum on the Little Noddy.



operculum

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### *Shell Bank*

Around the side of the headland is a place where the ocean deposits many tiny shells. Many of these shells used to live in the deeper water off the rocky shore platform. Over time waves break up shells which eventually turn into sand.

Your teacher will give your group a cup full of shells to have a closer look at. Sort the shells out on the paper and answer the questions below;

How many shells are shaped like this one (high and smooth)? \_\_\_\_\_



High smooth shells are mostly burrowers, or cluster together.

How many different coloured shells are there, write each colour;

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

How many shells are shaped like this one (low and round)? \_\_\_\_\_



Low round shells stick to rocks better.

Draw your favourite shell:



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## *Rock Pools*

Rock pools are very important for the animals on the rocky shore. They give the animals food, shelter and water.

Find a nice rock pool to sit beside and draw the shape of the rock pool and as many little plants and animals as you can see that are living in it.

Your Rock Pool



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