

Name: _____

Date: _____

≧ Purple Sea Urchins ≦

Purple sea urchins are small, round animals that live in the ocean. They have hard, pointy spines all over their bodies. These spines help protect them from predators. Their bodies are usually dark purple, but they can also be reddish or brown.

Purple sea urchins live on rocky shores and in kelp forests. They eat seaweed and algae. This helps keep the ocean clean and balanced. Sea urchins move slowly using tiny tube feet on the bottom of their bodies.



1 What are purple sea urchins?

- a. plants
- b. fish
- c. small, round animals



2 What helps protect purple sea urchins?

- a. their shells
- b. their pointy spines
- c. their big eyes



3 Where do purple sea urchins live?

- a. in the desert
- b. on rocky shores and in kelp forests
- c. in trees



4 What do purple sea urchins eat?

- a. fish
- b. seaweed and algae
- c. rocks



5 How do purple sea urchins move?

- a. they swim fast
- b. they use tiny tube feet
- c. they jump



6 Why are purple sea urchins important?

- a. They keep the ocean clean and balanced.
- b. They build houses.
- c. They make loud noises.



Bonus: Sea urchins have been on Earth for more than 200 million years!

Purple Sea Urchins

Comprehension Answer Key

Grade Level: 1st–2nd Grade

Answer Key

Use this page to check student responses.

1. **C** small, round animals
2. **B** their pointy spines
3. **B** on rocky shores and in kelp forests
4. **B** seaweed and algae
5. **B** they use tiny tube feet
6. **A** They keep the ocean clean and balanced.

Quick Check: 1–C 2–B 3–B 4–B 5–B 6–A

Teacher Answer Key • Purple Sea Urchins Nonfiction Comprehension

