



By the Seashore

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Chapter One

What Is a Seashore?

Can you say this?

She sells seashells
by the seashore.
The shells she sells
are surely seashells.

Do you know what a **seashore** is? All the land on Earth has ocean around it. The seashore is where the land meets the ocean.



The oceans are in blue on this globe.

There are different kinds of seashores around the world. There are ones made of sand. There are ones made of mud. There are ones made of rocks.



Sand



Mud



Rocks

Different Types of Seashores

Type of Seashore	What It Is Covered With
Sand	This is covered in sand.
Mud	This is covered in mud.
Rocks	This has large rocks. It also has rocky cliffs.

Water moves in and out at the seashore. Sometimes the seashore is under water. This is called **high tide**. Other times, it is not covered by water. This is called **low tide**. High tide and low tide happen two times a day.



High tide means the water comes up on the beach.



Low tide means the water moves back out.

Some parts of the seashore are always under water. These are called **tide pools**. Animals can hide here. They can feed safely.



Tide pool

Chapter Two

Seashore Animals

It is not easy for animals to live at the seashore. Waves break hard against the rocks. The strong wind blows. The tides go in and out. The animals get thrown around.

Waves break against the rocks.



The animals have to find ways to keep safe.
They also have to protect themselves from their enemies.

Here is what some animals do to stay safe.
Sea birds live high up. They build their nests in tall cliffs.



Sea birds build their nests in cliffs.





Starfish stay safe in the tide pools.

One kind of fish takes in lots of water. It gets big and round. This scares off its enemies.



Puffer fish

Here is what other animals do.

Seashore Animals	How They Protect Themselves
<p>Mussels</p> 	<p>Close up tight and use their hard shells</p>
<p>Hermit Crabs and Tiny Fish</p> 	<p>Stay in tide pools</p>
<p>Flounder and Stonefish</p> 	<p>Their bodies look like rocks. They blend in with the rocks.</p>
<p>Jellyfish</p> 	<p>Ride the tides</p>

Chapter Three

Very Cold Seashores

Some seashores are very cold. How do animals live here?

Seals have fat under their fur. This is called **blubber**. It keeps the seals warm.



A seal on ice

Penguins hunt for food. They have to go into the very cold sea. They must keep swimming. They will freeze if they don't. Their feathers keep the icy water out.



A penguin must keep moving.

Many sea birds fly to a warm place when it gets too cold.

Chapter Four

Seashells at the Seashore

Many seashore animals grow hard shells. These hard shells protect their soft bodies.

Most of these animals live under the sand. This is how they stay safe.

Some shells are all in one piece.



A shell in one piece

Some shells have a top and a bottom.



A shell with a top and a bottom

Hermit crabs are not like most crabs. They don't grow hard shells. They find old shells. They move into them.



A hermit crab inside its shell

There are lots of different kinds of shells at the beach. Have you ever seen these?



Sand dollar



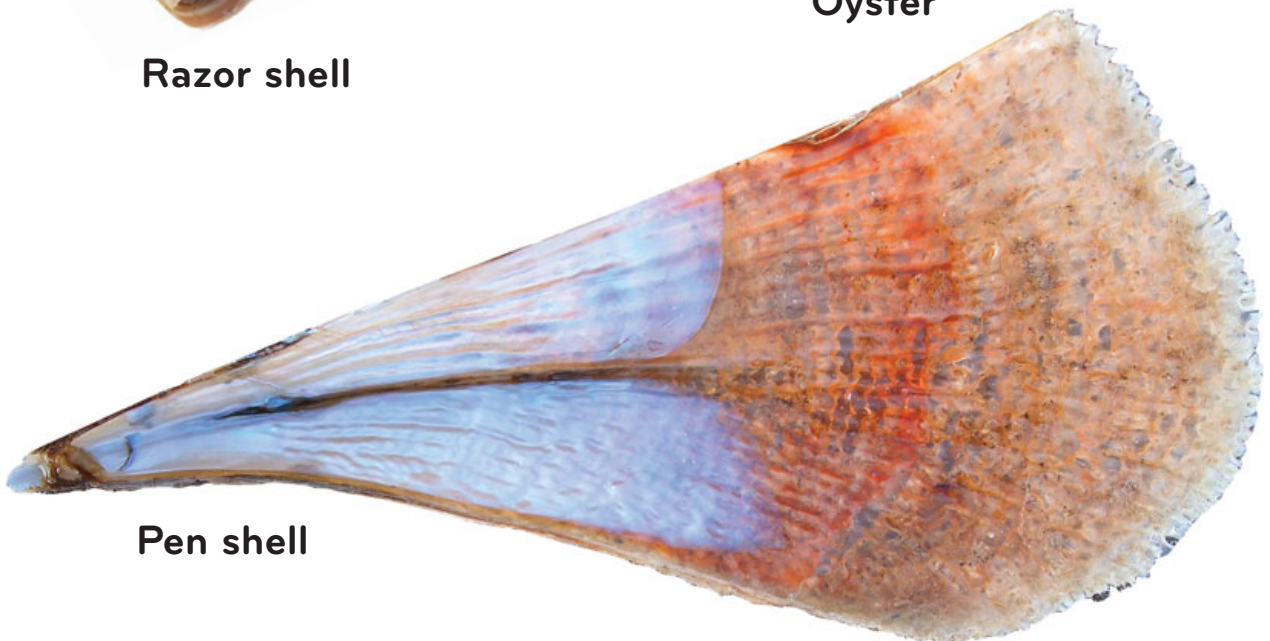
Scallop



Razor shell



Oyster



Pen shell

Chapter Five

Sand Dunes

Water, animals, and seashells are not the only things at the seashore. You can also see **sand dunes** there. Sand dunes are big hills of sand.

How are sand dunes made? Tall grass grows at the back of the beach. Strong winds blow the sand all around. The sand sticks to the grass. It builds up. It makes big hills. These hills are the sand dunes. Many plants and animals live here.



Sand dunes

It is very hot here. The dunes get lots of sun. They get very little water. Plants that grow here are very strong. They have long roots to hold them in place.

Some plants have fat leaves. The leaves hold water. Then the plants do not dry out.

Other plants grow little hairs on their leaves. These hairs trap tiny drops of water. The water helps them grow.



Can you see the tiny hairs?

Snake plants, sea peas, and sea grasses also grow in the sand dunes.



Snake plant



Sea pea



Sea grass

Do you know what animals live in the sand dunes? Many kinds of bugs do.



Grasshopper



Butterfly

Birds and crabs do. They feed on the bugs during the day.

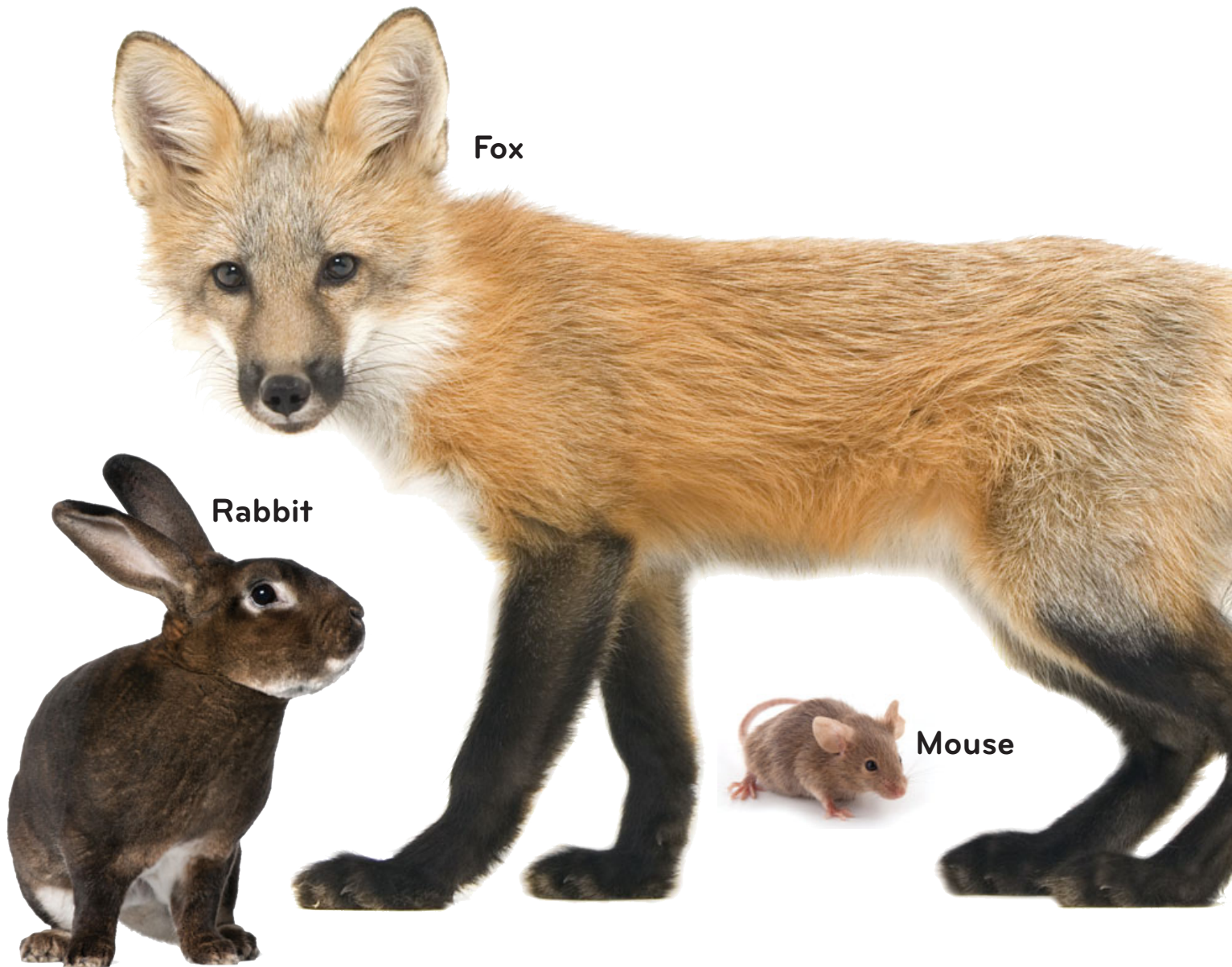


Seagull



Crab

Rabbits, mice, foxes, and other animals also live in the dunes. They come out at night to look for food.



Chapter Six

A Busy Place

The seashore is a very busy place. You can find many things there. Walk up and down on the sand. Keep your eyes open. Try not to touch anything. Watch where you are going! There will be plants and animals all around you.

What will you see? You might find a **man-of-war**.



Man-of-war

You might see sea turtles.



Sea turtle

You might see seaweed. You might find wood.



Seaweed



Wood

Seagulls might fly down from the sky. They will be looking for food.



Seagulls

The seashore is a beautiful place. It is home to many plants and animals. Take good care of it.

Glossary

blubber: the fat under the skin of a seal or a whale

high tide: the time when the water level in an ocean is at its highest point

low tide: the time when the water level in an ocean is at its lowest point

man-of-war: a sea creature that is like a jellyfish

sand dune: a sand hill made by the wind near an ocean

seashore: the sandy, muddy, or rocky land next to the sea

tide pool: a part of the seashore that is always covered by water