



Short Spined Urchin

- GROUP/PHYLUM:** Echinoderm
- COLOR:** Black – Brown – Orange – Green – Red - Purple
- MOVEMENT:** Urchins can move quickly using their feet, spines, or even their teeth. Spines can move in any direction. Thousands of tube feet are used to hold on to the bottom while feeding. If turned upside down they will turn themselves the right way up again.
- TEXTURE/SHAPE:** The hard outer-shell is called a 'test'. It is covered in spines. Urchin's length ranges from 1-20 cm.
- HOW IT EATS::** Moves over food. Beak-like mouth on underside with 5 large stabbing teeth. Stabs at food making it into a pulp which it then sucks up.
- WHAT IT EATS:** Dead fish – algae - sponges - seaweed - kelp.
- DEFENCE:** Long spines for protection. Can wedge itself between rocks so fish can't eat it.
- JOB:** Cleaning the ocean floor.



Spines can be venomous.
Waste is excreted through the top not bottom!
When a sea urchin dies, all its' spines fall off!