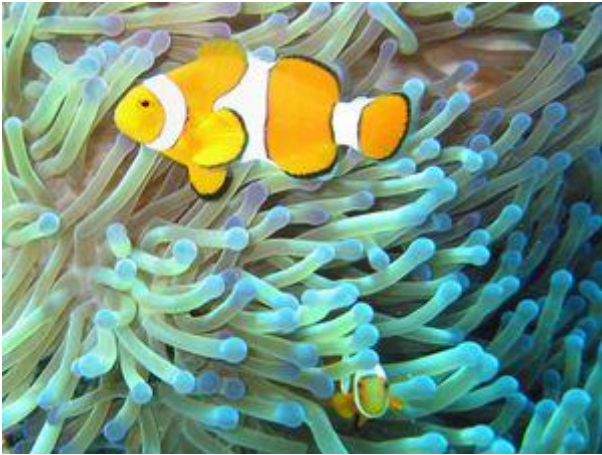


# Sea anemone facts for kids

## [Kids Encyclopedia Facts](#)

A common [clownfish](#) in a sea anemone. The fish lives in a [symbiosis](#) with the anemone



*Amphiprion melanopus* anemonefish in a bubble anemone from [East Timor](#).

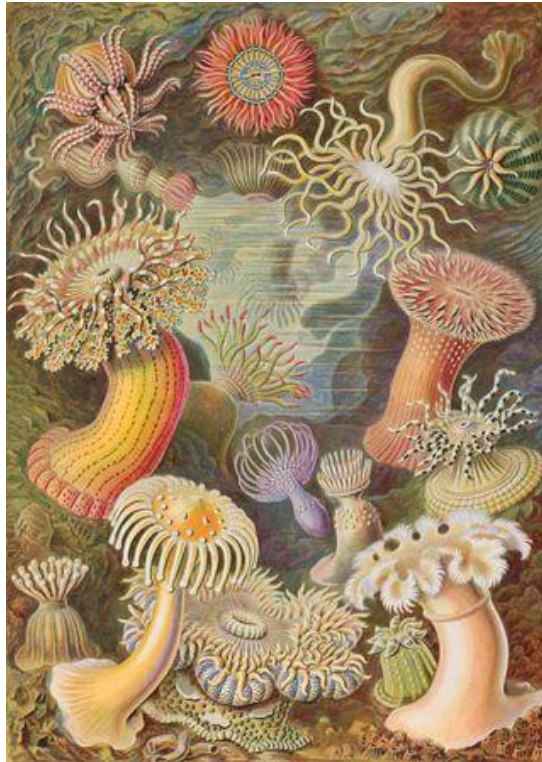


**Sea anemones** are [Cnidarian animals](#) that live in the [sea](#). They are [polyps](#), one of the basic forms of the phylum. They are predatory animals, which [paralyze](#) their [prey](#) with stinging [nematocysts](#) which fire a [harpoon](#)-like structure which delivers a dose of [neurotoxins](#). To eat the fish, or [crustacean](#), they move the prey into their stomach. Anemones are [sessile](#) (stay in one spot), but they can move if necessary.

The anemones have an oral disk on the top of its body. The sea anemone's head is in the middle of the oral disk. The tentacles surround the oral disk. The pedal disc is on the bottom of the sea anemone.

Some sea anemones live in [symbiosis](#) with other animals. [Clownfish](#), [Bucchich's goby](#), and [Sipder crabs](#) find shelter among the tentacles of the anemone. [Hermit crabs](#) often have sea anemones on the shell they inhabit.

## Images for kids



The 49th plate from [Ernst Haeckel's Kunstformen der Natur](#), 1904, showing various sea anemones classified as Actiniae

