

Sea Star Dissection Vocabulary

Benthic:	Bottom dweller or living on the seafloor
Broadcast Spawning:	A form of reproduction where eggs and sperm are spewed into the surrounding environment of the ocean
Detritivore:	An animal that feeds on dead organic material, especially detritus
Echinoderm:	A marine invertebrate phylum which includes sea stars, sea urchins, or sea cucumbers
Fragmentation:	The process by which sea stars reproduce through regeneration of broken limbs
Keystone Species:	A species which other species largely depends on. If it were removed the ecosystem would change drastically.
Penta-Radial Symmetry:	Arrangement of body parts around a central axis. Can be split into five equal parts (penta)
Regeneration:	Formation of new animal or plant tissue
Wasting Syndrome:	A disease of unknown causes that is responsible for the mass mortality of sea stars
Water Vascular System:	A network of water vessels in the body used by echinoderms for locomotion, food and waste transportation, and respiration