

Tide Pool Scavenger Hunt

What is a tide pool?

When the tide goes out, water from high tide gets trapped in hollows in rocks or holes in the ground. Plants and animals live in these pools of water that only appear when the tide is out and are covered up during high tide.

Where can I find tide pools?

Beaches that have lots of rocks are best for finding tide pools. You should look for tide pools near low tide. Tide times for Santa Barbara can be found here:

<https://www.usharbors.com/harbor/California/Santa-Barbara-ca/tides>

Safety:

- Go with an adult
- Don't go into the water near rocks - the waves are stronger than you expect!
- Never turn your back on the ocean - keep an eye out for big waves
- Wear shoes with good grip that stay on your feet (no flip flops). The rocks are sharp and slippery!
- Move slowly and carefully, and use your hands to not lose your balance
- Wear sunscreen and appropriate clothes for the weather

Leave No Trace:

- Step on solid, bare rocks so you don't damage plants & animals
- Do not take anything alive (plants or animals) from tide pools. It will not survive out of water and will smell terrible! Check inside shells for hermit crabs or other living things
- Look, don't touch. If you do pick something up, keep your hands wet, look at it quickly and gently, and return it exactly where it came from
- If something is attached to a rock, leave it there

Instructions:

- Find as many of the pictured plants and animals as you can. Mark them off as you find them. Try to get three in a row!



Common Tide Pool Animals

Sea anemone



Sea star



Hermit crab



Limpet



Mussels



Crab



Sea urchin



Chiton



Turban snail



Common Tide Pool Plants

