

# CUTTLEFISH SPOTLIGHT



## THE BASICS

The cuttlefish is NOT a fish, but a **mollusc** in the order Sepiida, from the Greek and Latin 'Sepia' referring to the **reddish brown** pigment in their ink.

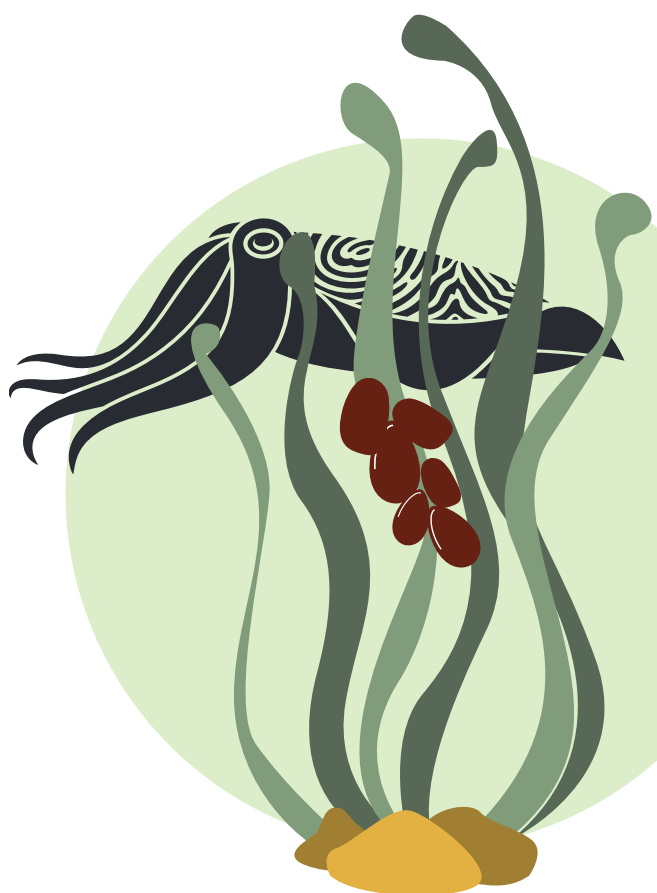
The largest species is up to **50 cm** and their head is merged to their foot!

## LIFESTYLE

Cuttlefish eat **molluscs, crabs, shrimp, fish, worms**, even other cuttlefish.

They **change skin** colour and texture to communicate and for camouflage.

Cuttlefish lay eggs in **seagrass** meadows and cover them with ink, the eggs are called '**sea grapes**'.



## WEIRD AND WONDERFUL

**Three separate hearts** pump greeny blue blood around the cuttlefish.

They use the suckers on their **8 arms** and **2 tentacles** to taste things.

An internal shell called a '**cuttle bone**' is used for buoyancy by filling it with gas.

## MUST KNOW

Cuttlefish are **colourblind** and have W shaped pupils.  
They have two clumps of sensory cells in each eye, one focusing **forwards** and one **backwards**, meaning cuttlefish have no blindspots!

Scientists think cuttlefish **sleep**!



Check out our other cuttlefish activities!