

sea squirts

The Gift of Homes for HERMIT CRABS

Have you ever seen a hermit crab in an uncomfortable-looking shell? This summer, remember that that shell you picked up may be the perfect present for a hermit crab whose quarters are a little too tight. When strolling on the beach, instead of gathering shells and taking them home, make a wish and give the gift of a home to a hermit crab.

MATCHING GAME Match the hermit crab on the right with its dream home on the left.



The **cone snail hermit crab** differs from most hermit crabs in that it lives in cone shells, not shells with round openings.



The **left-handed hermit crab** is named for its very large left claw. When threatened it pulls into its shell and seals the hole with its large left claw.



Like all hermit crabs, the **hidden hermit crab** hides its soft abdomen (back end) in a snail shell to protect itself from predators.



The **elegant hermit crab** (*Calcinus elegans*) is sometimes called the Halloween hermit crab due to its black and orange coloration.



The **jeweled anemone hermit crab** is named for its jewel-like eyes and for the protective anemones it carries on its shell.