



## **Student Activity**

### **Starfish: Ecological Communities** **The Living Oceans**

#### **Vocabulary:**

diminutive, appendages, kaleidoscopic, succulent, sedentary, sarcastic fringehead, fronds, kelp, serpentine, anemones, venomous, tentacles, ambush predator, Irish Lord

#### **Pre-Viewing Discussion:**

Where would you go to observe starfish?

Do starfish also live in deeper ocean habitats?

Are starfish predators? What do they eat?

How many species of starfish are there? Can you describe the variations in starfish populations?

#### **Post-Viewing Discussion:**

What is the purpose of starfish tentacles?

How do octopuses camouflage themselves on the ocean bottom?

Why are female octopuses so defensive of their territory?

What is an ambush predator? What fish is an example of an ambush predator?

#### **Further Activities:**

Do further research on any of the species mentioned in this production.

Find out how species of starfish differ from one another.

Do further research on how marine animals defend themselves from predators.

Find out how kelp forests support the lives of starfish.