## **Arthropods**

Subphylum Trilobitomorpha (trilobites) Subphylum Chelicerata (spiders, scorpions, horseshoe crabs, sea spiders, sea scorpion) Subphylum Myriapoda (centipedes, millipedes) Subphylum Crustacea (brine shrimp, barnacles, fish lice, lobsters, crabs, shrimp) Subphylum Hexapoda (insects)

General

Most diverse, more species than other phyla. The insects alone have more than a million described species and equates to half of all known organisms. The name arthropod means jointed foot, or jointed leg, and aside from vertebrates are the only animals with joints. They have adapted to live in all earth environments. They range from microscopic to 13 feet (Japanese spider crab)

Branchiopoda

Maxillopoda

Coper

Crustaceans

Ostracoda

Ostracod

Sand honne

## **Body Plan**

Invertebrates with exoskeleton and jointed appendages. Attached to the exoskeleton may be setae, or hair-like projections. They use hydraulic pressure to extend their legs. All arthropods will molt, or shed their shells to grow a larger one. Most have open circulatory systems or some open-ended arteries. All have heart(s) and a coelom. They breathe through gills or book lungs. Their

excretory systems are well developed. They also have well developed senses, with chemo-receptors (scent and taste) and oscelli (eyes). Many can hear as well.

Brine shrimp

## History

Most arthropods were present during the Cambrian explosion (about 560 mya). Early arthropods are similar to segmented worms (think of the centipede).

## Reproduction

Only a few arthropods are hermaphroditic, such as barnacles. Even those only behave as a single sex throughout their lives. Most arthropods have a single sex. Some of the marine arthropods have external fertilization, but most of the land arthropods have eggs that are fertilized internally. Some do produce packets of sperm that the female must pick up. Most arthropods lay eggs, but scorpions give live birth. From birth, many will either grow or transform from the juvenile to the adult states.









Mantis Shrimp

Krill



Malacostraca

Prawn

Three Basic Characteristics of Arthropods (Insects and their Relatives)

Jointed

appendages

egmenter

body

