

Science

CRUSTACEANS (NOTES)

- *Animals that do not have a backbone are called **invertebrates**.*
- *Arthropods that have two body sections and two pairs of antennae are called **crustaceans**.*
- *They include invertebrates such as lobster, shrimp, crab, krill, spiny lobster and soldier crab.*



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- *The hard outer covering is called an **exoskeleton**.*
- *The exoskeleton **protects** the organs inside the animal's body.*
- *It also **prevents** the loss of water from the body.*
- *The skeleton does not grow, it **molts**. To molt means to shed the outer body covering.*
- *Crustaceans use **gills** to breathe and they reproduce by **laying eggs**.*
- *The eggs are laid in water and young crustaceans that hatch do not look like the adult.*
- *As they grow, their bodies change until they resemble the adult.*
- *Most crustaceans spend all their time in water but some crabs live all their adult lives on land.*
- *Crabs are the most common land crustaceans found in The Bahamas.*
- *The largest crab population is found on **Andros**.*
- *Black and pond crabs are used for food.*
- *The spiny lobster and crab are sold locally but the spiny lobster is an Export - sold abroad to help bring money into the Bahamian economy.*
- *The spiny lobster is protected by law and can only be captured during the crawfish season **August 1st to March 31st**.*