

Science



Sponges

Read the notes carefully then write the notes.

Sponges are marine animals. They are *invertebrates* (animals with no backbone). They usually remain anchored in one place all their lives. Sponges are **filter feeders** (they filter tiny particles of food from the water).

A sponge has only two layers of cells. The outer covering of the sponge's body is covered with tiny holes called pores. These pores lead to canals which are made up of specialized cells with whip like structures that beat rapidly. This motion helps purified water into canals. Thread like structures remove the tiny pieces of food from the water. The water then flows out through an opening called a **vent**.

Sponges have needle like parts that give them shape. Different species of sponges have different colors, shapes and sizes.

Sponges are found on reefs in The Bahamas. At one time, Bahamian fishermen harvested sponges which were sold to foreign countries where sponges were processed into a variety of household items that could be used for decorations and bathing. At that time the sponging industry was the most important economic activity in The Bahamas.

The names of some sponges are **Purple vase**, **Red branching** and **Venus's-flower-basket**.

I have read my notes at least three times. (A) Yes (B) No

I have written the notes in my exercise book. (A) Yes (B) No