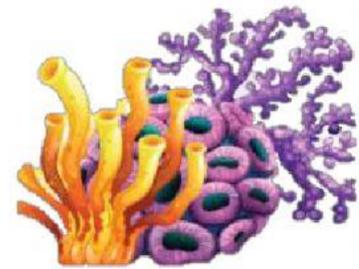


# Sponges



**Name:**

**Date:**

**Directions: Answer each question about sponges.**

Sponges are marine animals, and they are invertebrates (animals without a 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 tiny canals that are made up of specialized cells with whip-like structures that beat rapidly. This motion helps to pump water into the 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 **colours, shapes, and sizes**. Sponges are found on **reefs** in The Bahamas. At one time, Bahamian fishermen harvested sponges that were sold to foreign countries. The sponges were processed into a variety of household items that could be used for decoration and bathing. At that time, the sponging industry was the most important economic activity in The Bahamas. Sponges reproduce using **asexual** and **sexual** reproduction. Asexual means that a sponge is both male and female. In asexual reproduction which is called budding this when a piece of sponge breaks off, and it is able to sustain life and grow, **regenerate**. In sexual reproduction, the sperm of the male is released into the water, and it travels to the female egg.

**1. The holes on sponges are called \_\_\_\_\_ [1]**

**2. Sponges are \_\_\_\_\_ animals and they are \_\_\_\_\_ . [2]**

**3. Use the numbers 1 – 4 to show how water flow through sponges. [4]**

\_\_\_\_\_ **water is purified**

\_\_\_\_\_ **thread-like structures remove pieces of food**

\_\_\_\_\_ pores lead to canals

\_\_\_\_\_ water flows to the vents

**4. The \_\_\_\_\_ parts give shape to the sponge. [1]**

**5. Where are sponges found in The Bahamas? [1]**

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Name three ways sponges are used. [3]**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Sponges are also known as [2]**

\_\_\_\_\_

**8. How many layers of cells do sponges have? [1]**

\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Which invertebrate use asexual reproduction? [1]**

\_\_\_\_\_

**10. Define the term asexual reproduction. [2]**

\_\_\_\_\_