

Copycats

The leafy sea dragon is a weird but beautiful copycat. From its name you would think it imitates a dragon, wouldn't you? But no, it only gets that name from its funny shape. The leafy sea dragon imitates what's around it. It lives in seaweed, and so its body looks like a seaweed leaf. The sea dragon imitates the shape and colour of seaweed, and it even looks like floating seaweed when it moves. It doesn't use the parts of its body that look like a leaf to swim. It uses fins that are transparent, so it's hard to see them move.

The leafy sea dragon doesn't only look like a copycat. It also dances like a copycat. A male and female sea dragon will copy each other's movements for hours.

The mimic octopus is the only sea creature that can imitate many species. It not only changes its color, it also changes its shape. It has arms as thick as pencils. When it spreads them wide, they look like spines of a lionfish. It can hide some of its arms in the sand but leave two arms out. Then with its white and brown stripes and the two arms, it looks like a sea snake! It can also pull its arms together and swim on the sea floor so, to a predator, it looks like a poisonous flatfish!

Like other octopuses, the mimic octopus has eight arms and three hearts. It swims by shooting out jets of water through a siphon. It also has a large brain for its size. That's one smart octopus.

I. Read. Fill in the table with words from the text.

	Leafy sea dragon	Mimic octopus
Habitat		
Description		
Color		
Movement		

II. Read. Ansv	ver the questions. Write NO MOR	E THAN FIVE words.
1. What does a	leafy sea dragon look like when it n	noves?
It looks like		
2. Why is it dif	ficult to see leafy sea dragons move	?
Because they i	ıse	
3. What can mi	imic octopuses do?	
They can		
4. What makes	a mimic octopus look like a sea snal	ke?
It's		and two arms.
5. How many h	nearts does a mimic octopus have?	
It has		

