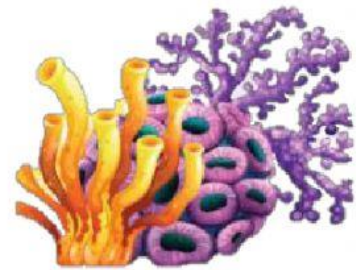


Sponges



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]
