

Anatomy of a shrimp

DID YOU KNOW?

- ♦ Anatomy comes from the Greek *anatome*, which also means dissection.
- ♦ It is a branch of science that's deals with the structural organisation of a living thing.
- ♦ It is one of the oldest sciences - it dates back to prehistoric times.
- ♦ Over the centuries, anatomical knowledge consisted largely of observations of dissected plants and animals.

In this exercise we are looking at the anatomy of a crustacean (shrimp), to understand some physical structures of a living organism and their functional workings.

Read the following paragraph, discuss it with classmates and then write down any other information you have about shrimps.

Shrimp are structurally similar to lobsters and crayfish. However, they lack the enlarged pincers and are flattened laterally instead of horizontally. Shrimp are usually transparent but they can be green or brown in colour. To escape from danger they can swim backward by contracting their thick muscled abdomens. Shrimp inhabit both salt and fresh water and are mostly found on shallow seafloors, where they feed on small animals and plants.

