



Giant Pacific Octopus • Study Guide

Jonathan embarks on a journey to learn about the Giant Pacific Octopus, visiting the New England Aquarium, Seattle Aquarium and finally diving the waters of Puget Sound near Seattle, Washington.

Objectives

1. Introduces viewers to the world's largest species of octopus.
2. Teaches the basic biology of the octopus.
3. Shows some interesting octopus behavior in the wild.

Questions for before watching the program

1. What does *octopus* mean? (What is the best plural for the word *octopus*?)
2. What is the largest species of octopus?
3. Are octopuses dangerous?
4. How does an octopus swim? Can it walk? Can it get out of the water?

Discussion for after watching the program

1. How does an octopus taste its food?
2. What does an octopus use its siphon for?
3. Why does the New England Aquarium have astroturf on the walls of the octopus exhibit?
4. What does the Giant Pacific Octopus like to eat?
5. What is the only effective weapon a Giant Pacific Octopus has against another?
6. Why might the octopuses have been fighting?
7. What two ways can an octopus change its skin so it can blend in to its surroundings?
8. Internet Research: How long does the Giant Pacific Octopus live?