



## The Rockpool Crab

There was once a rockpool crab. He was so curious to know,  
What was out there in the sea and just where did it go?  
He asked a passing fish, if she could help him on his quest.  
As crab couldn't leave the rocks, he thought it would be best.  
The fish swam out to take a look as far as she could go.  
She swam until she had to stop but still she didn't know.  
She asked a passing jellyfish to help her if he could.  
The jellyfish could go deeper, and so he said he would.  
The jellyfish asked the octopus, the octopus asked the whale.  
The whale swam around the world and came back with his tale.  
  
'The sea leads to the ocean, the ocean is big and blue.  
The octopus breathes underwater, and the fish all do, too.  
I met a dolphin and turtle, while I was swimming out there.  
Like me, the whale, they can't do that. We all need to breathe the air.'  
The crab was simply shocked. Now just how could it be?  
That animals that breathed the air could all live in the sea.  
The whale tried to explain. He did so with a smile.  
He told crab that these animals held their breath for quite a while.

The crab was so excited. He wanted to know more.

What else was there out at sea, far away from this shore?

‘Well the water gets much deeper. Deep water’s very cold.

Deep water’s also very dark, or so I have been told.

The sun cannot reach down there, and so it’s black as night.

Deep down are some odd creatures that might give you a fright.’

The crab thanked the whale for all that he had done.

Crab knew so much more now than when he had begun.

Maybe one day he will visit. He’ll have a holiday.

Right now, I think the rockpool is the best place that he could stay.

## VIPERS QUESTIONS

**R**

Where does the sea go?

**R**

Name 2 ocean animals that breathe air.

**R**

Why is it dark in deep ocean water?

**V**

What does the word quest mean? Circle the correct answer.  
a search for something      asking questions

**I**

I: How do you think crab feels at the end of the story?

Answers:

R: The sea leads to the ocean.

R: Any two out of dolphin, turtle and whale.

R: The sun can't reach there.

V: A search for something

I: Any sensible answer.