

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

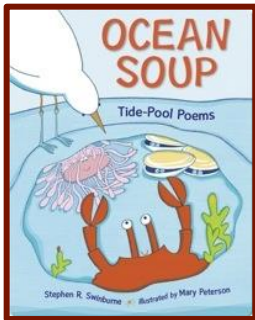
THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND



COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **June 29:** 806 Parlor Talk "The Tide IS Rising" a panel discussion with researchers, journalists, & scientists @ 2:00 PM
- **June 26-30:** Photography Camps--spots still available
- **July 8:** All-American Shrimp Fry; Click here to join us! [SHRIMP FRY 2023](#)

Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



Ocean Soup: Tide Pool Poems

By Stephen R. Swinburne

When the tide goes out, a briny soup is trapped among the rocks. Playful poems introduce readers to ten salty tide-pool creatures--from a self-satisfied anemone that brags about its home to barnacles that perform a rap about their feeding technique. The poems are brought to life by Mary Peterson's lighthearted illustrations.

Pages: 32
Grades: 1st – 2nd

What's a Tidal Pool

A tidal pool, also commonly called a tide pool or rock pool, is a portion of the intertidal zone where water is left behind when the ocean recedes at low tide. Tidal pools can be large or small, deep or shallow.



photo from www.beachrealtync.com

Intertidal zones exist anywhere the ocean meets the land. Four physical divisions, each with distinct characteristics and ecological differences, divide the intertidal zone.

Those zones are:

- **Spray zone:** This area is dampened by ocean spray and high waves and is submerged during very high tides or storms.
- **High intertidal zone:** This part floods during the peaks of high tides but remains dry for long stretches between them. It is inhabited by hardy sea life that can withstand such drastic conditions.
- **Middle intertidal zone:** Here tides ebb and flow twice a day and is inhabited by a greater variety of both plants and animals.
- **Low intertidal zone:** This section is virtually always underwater except during the lowest of tides. Life is more abundant here because of the protection provided by its water level.

A Tidal Pool Neighborhood

To survive in the rugged environment of a tidal pool, inhabitants will cling very tightly to any rock to which they can adhere. There are many marine species found in tidal pools, from plants to animals.

The space in a tidal pool may be limited, but the food there is plentiful. Every wave at every high tide delivers fresh nutrients and microscopic organisms, such as plankton, to support and replenish the pool's intricate food chain. Washed in by the waves, these organisms nourish the smallest animals, which then sustain the larger ones.

Although vertebrates such as fish occasionally inhabit a tide pool, the animal life is almost always composed of invertebrates. Gastropods such as periwinkles, whelks, and nudibranchs may be found thriving in tidal pools. Some of their neighbors are bivalves such as mussels, crustaceans such as barnacles, crabs, and lobsters; and echinoderms like starfish and sea urchins.

Tidal pool plants and plant-like organisms are important for food and shelter. Coralline algae may be found encrusting rocks and the shells of organisms such as snails and crabs. Sea palms and kelps may anchor themselves to bivalves or rocks. Wracks, sea lettuce, and Irish moss form a colorful display of algae.

As ocean water retreats from tidal pools during low tide, the resident marine life must survive hours exposed to the sun, low oxygen, increasing water temperature, and predators such as wading birds that specialize in dining in these shallow pools. At high tide, the pools are bathed in fresh seawater, but must endure the pounding of crashing waves and foraging fish with short-term access to the shoreline.



Create Your Own Tidal Pool

- First, select a large container to act as your tidal pool.
- Put a few scoops of sand or crushed rock in the container's bottom.
- Add some seashells or small rocks.
- Add some toy sea creatures – such as starfish, sea turtles, crabs or even an octopus.
- Fill up the tidal pool with buckets of water. Take turns making it high tide and low tide. You may even create waves by rocking the container back and forth.



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