

Acorn Barnacle



Description: Acorn barnacles are related to shrimp, lobsters and crabs. They begin their life as free swimming larvae until they find a place to call home. Barnacles then “glue” their heads to pier pilings, shells, ships, whales or any other solid surface. Once stationary, barnacles create a hard shell out

of limestone that they hide in. When hungry, the barnacle pulls out its feathery legs and grabs plankton from the water. It spends its entire life with its head glued to the surface!

Diet: Acorn barnacles feed on plankton drifting in the water and detritus, or fish waste!

Where they are Found: Acorn barnacles can be found worldwide in temperate and tropical waters.

WOW!!! Acorn barnacles have both male and female sex organs so they cross fertilize with their next door neighbors.