

Spiny Brittle Star



Description: These Brittle stars often look like worms, however; they are related to sea stars and sea urchins. Brittle stars have five arms that they use to catch food. They usually bury themselves in the sand and leave an arm out to catch food. If an animal gets a hold of an arm, the brittle star releases the arm and can regrow, or regenerate another arm.

http://naturalsciences.org/microsites/education/deepsea/gallery_2004.htm

Where they are Found: Spiny Brittle stars are found from northern California all the way down to Peru.

Diet: Small animals and organic matter.

Status in the ocean: brittle stars are easily affected by motor oil. Motor oil can get into the ocean from cars leaking oil on the street. The oil then drains into the storm drain and out of the outfall into the ocean. Make sure you recycle your oil instead of illegally dumping it.

WOW!!! Brittle Stars can be found from the sea floor to more than 6,000 feet deep!