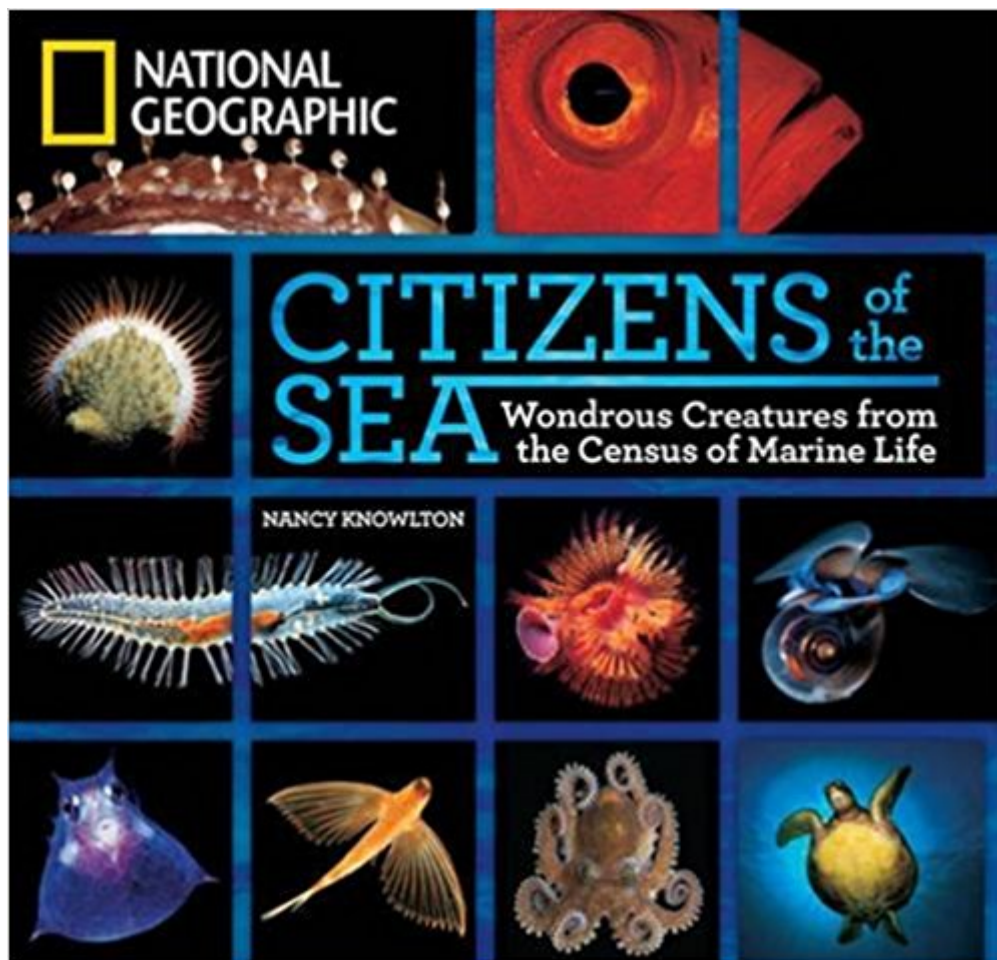




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# Citizens Of The Sea: Wondrous Creatures From The Census Of Marine Life



## Synopsis

The astonishing diversity of ocean life will wow you in this riveting book, perfect for all ages, by marine scientist Nancy Knowlton. *Citizens of the Sea* reveals the most intriguing organisms in the ocean, captured in action by skilled underwater photographers from National Geographic and the Census of Marine Life. As you read lively vignettes about sea creatures' names, defenses, migration, mating habits, and more, you'll be amazed at wonders like . . .

- The almost inconceivable number of creatures in the marine world. From the bounty of microbes in one drop of seawater, we can calculate that there are more individuals in the oceans than stars in the universe.
- The sophisticated sensory abilities that help these animals survive. For many, the standard five senses are just not enough.
- The incredible distances that seabirds and other species cover. Some will feed in both Arctic and Antarctic waters within a single year.
- The odd relationships common in the marine world. From a dental hygienist for fish to a walrus's one-night stand, you'll find beauty, practicality, and plenty of eccentricity in sea-life socialization. Brilliantly photographed and written in an easygoing style, *Citizens of the Sea* will inform and enchant you with close-up documentation of the fascinating facts of life in the ocean realm.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

From *Citizens of the Sea* Click on the images or captions below to open larger versions.

Coral reefs are full of hungry creatures, but the coloration of this poisonous sea slug (*Phyllidia ocellata*) warns predators that it is off the menu. (Darlyne A.

Murawski/NationalGeographicStock.com, p. 37) This baby slipper lobster is completely transparent before growing a thick shell. Its bizarre eyes may confuse predators while it floats in the plankton. (Peter Parks/SeaPics.com, p. 39) Fast-growing giant kelps (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) form cold-water forests that many fish, invertebrates, and mammals call home. (Phillip Colla/SeaPics.com, p. 79) "Smiling" for the camera, this colorful ember parrotfish (*Scarus rubroviolaceus*) shows off its impressive chops, which can easily pulverize coral. (Paul Sutherland/NationalGeographicStock.com, p. 148)

"Citizens of the Sea" is not a book to be read alone. It is packed with facts and photographs that are so cool, so bizarre, and so downright amazing that you'll want to make sure you have some willing company to share them with. [ ] Although you may find yourself reading "Citizens of the Sea" cover-to-cover regardless of your intentions, its gorgeous photos, one-page stories, and "fast fact" boxes also lend themselves to coffee table perusal. The book would be an excellent vehicle for inspiring older children to get excited about the ocean, but I would particularly recommend it for adults who want to rekindle their childlike wonder. Just don't read it alone!" — Joanna Solins, CORAL Communications Associate

"Citizens of the Sea: Wondrous Creatures from the Census of Marine Life" by Nancy Knowlton is a new National Geographic production, and the perfect book for curling up with on a cloudy afternoon with a big pot of tea. The photos, of course, are mind blowing, and Nancy's accompanying text is bright, fun to read, and chock full of the "beauty, weirdness, and wonder of the sea." — Nancy is a serious scientist known for her work discovering new corals and figuring out new ways of classifying them. Increasingly, she has turned her attention to helping others understand the ocean's wonders — "as its citizens have no vote in any international body, but they need to be heard." This book is a unique combination of photos and substance." — Nancy Baron, Author of *Escape from the Ivory Tower* and *Ocean Science Outreach Director for SeaWeb and COMPASS*

"Citizens of the Sea," is a dazzling collection of photographs of undersea creatures, with commentary by — Nancy Knowlton, a marine scientist at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and a leader of the census effort. The book's goal is to introduce readers to the plants and animals that inhabit the marine world — from Antarctic ice to more than six miles down, near the bottom of the Marianas Trench, the deepest spot on the ocean floor. In its pages we encounter creatures both familiar and strange. Most will enjoy it as a journey through what remains a largely alien landscape filled with beautiful and often bizarre creatures." — Cornelia Dean, "Getting to Know Your Neighbors Below the Surface," *The New York Times Science Section*

The Census of Marine Life, a decade-long project encompassing more than

2,700 scientists across the world, sought to answer a basic but daunting question: What lives in the ocean? The census revealed thousands of new species. National Geographic's new book "Citizens of the Sea", captures many of them.âWashington Postâ Beautifully illustratedâ an eye-opening introduction to the life in the sea that surrounds us.â • Â "Keysnews.comÂ

This was a gift for my 9 year old nephew who loves marine biology. He loves this book! It's educational and the pictures are beautiful. Perfect for him and engaging for adults as well.

What an introduction to the diversity of ocean lives that we will never experience or see directly.

My wife and I recently spent a week in the Cayman Islands. Most of our time was spent checking out the amazing creatures of this famous coral reef through the lens of a snorkel mask. Fortunately we also packed National Geographic's new book, Citizens of the Sea. Although the author, Nancy Knowlton, is a renown marine biologist, the book is written for any adult or young person with an interest in learning more about the creatures of the sea. The photos are stunning but it's really the text that captivated me. Each page highlights a different animal or theme and describes it in a clear but fascinating manner. I hadn't realized that the variety and weirdness of underwater life could surpass that of life on land. It's the kind of book you can pick up for ten minutes and learn something extraordinary. Reading this lovely book each evening made us more anxious to dive into the water the next day to see what new creatures we would discover. Not too large, but densely packed with information, it's the perfect book to bring along on a diving or snorkeling vacation.

A Christmas gift for my granddaughter majoring in marine biology - it was a perfect present. Well-written with beautiful photos and a cover gorgeous enough to serve as coffee-table book if she ever puts it down! Book arrived in perfect condition. Thanks National Geographic and !

Our granddaughter is in to marine life. This book has great detail about all the creatures under the sea. She totally loved it. She will be rereading this book for years.

As another reviewer mentioned, the mesmerizing photos of majestic and stranger-than-fiction creatures are the bait that draws you in, but it's the little gems of prose on each topic that really stuck with me -- even as a professional marine biologist I learned all kinds of fascinating stuff for the first time or saw it in a new light. More importantly, the book rekindles that sense of awe and

inspiration from nature that makes every kid want to be a marine biologist at some point in life. In fact it reminds me so much of those that turned me on to ocean life when I was young that I ordered ten copies and gave them to all of my students and staff for Christmas (which is not hard to do at \$17 each!). Personally I think the size is perfect -- this is not something you want to leave sitting on your coffee table.

I purchased this book for my nephew who is seven, and he absolutely loved it! The quality of the book is wonderful, filled with colorful pictures and great information. Definitely kept my nephew interested for hours. Last I heard, he is planning on bringing it to class for show and tell =)

Awesome book, full of information and colorful photos.

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