



WHELK – *Buccinum undatum* laying its eggs under a rock ledge in November. In spring, empty egg cases are often found washed up with other flotsam.



PLAICE – Small *Pleuronectes platessa* are often found at the tide's edge on sandy shores. With a shudder, this one vanished in the sand.



CRABS – We have ten or more different crabs in the region. This Montagu's Crab *Lophozozymus incisus* is rarer than the common shore and edible crabs.

For biodiversity, the seashores of western Scotland are among the richest in Britain. This poster illustrates a minute fraction of the many creatures that can be found on Highland shores.



A GIANT SCALLOP – *Pecten maximus* waits patiently in its personal little sandy pool for the return of the tide.



COMMON MID SHORE ANIMALS – edible periwinkles *Littorina littoralis*, mussels *Mytilus edulis* and barnacles *Semibalanus balanoides* form a society.



STARFISH – mostly have five 'arms', but *Luidia ciliaris*, exposed at low tide and making its way rapidly (for a starfish) across the sand, has seven.



PEACOCK WORM – *Sabella pavonina*, with its escape tube set firmly in fine sand, filtering food particles from a tidal current with fanned tentacles.



SEA SQUIRTS – draw water through the top opening (fringed red), absorb oxygen and filter out food particles, and pass waste through the side opening.



CUTTLEFISH – Occasionally we find a very special creature such as this *Rossia macrostoma* stranded on the low shore, in need of rescue.