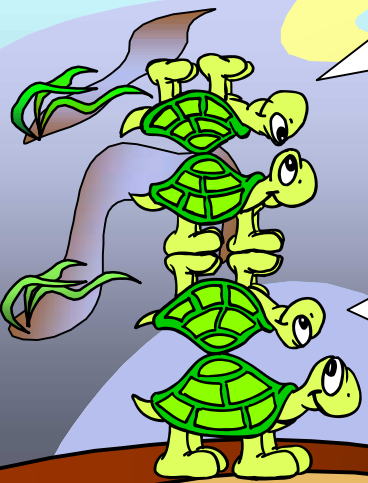



Is an OCTOPUS smart?



We're intelligent too! Look! We can balance on top of each other.



C'mon, just a little bit more... and... dinner!

Internet English Academy

Octopuses are generally considered to be the smartest of all invertebrate animals. Octopuses are usually found in the tropical and temperate waters of the world's oceans.

Yes, it is! An octopus can learn. It has a variety of techniques to escape a predator. One of its amazing abilities is to change its color to hide in plain sight. Chromatophores, or "color carriers," are their secret weapon. They use them to camouflage or hide, or to sneak up on food. These are used to communicate with other octopuses, too.

That's cool! What happens when they are discovered?

If discovered, an octopus releases a cloud of black ink that can dull a predator's sense of smell which allows it to quickly swim away. Or, it can squeeze into very tiny cracks with its flexible body. If all else fails, an octopus can lose an arm to escape and regrow it later.



Did you know...?

At the Seattle Aquarium, a Giant Pacific Octopus learned how to recognize and squirt the biologist who woke it up at night to check on it. The same aquarium also had an octopus that went out of its own tank and into other tanks with tastier occupants!