



Shape of Life

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Phylum Cnidaria – Questions

Video Title: *Life on the Move Video* 14:44 minutes

1. What was the first group of animals to exist on the ocean floor?
2. What group of animals evolved after the sponges?
3. How do tentacles give a cnidarian an advantage?
4. What two digestive system structures appeared first in the cnidarians?
5. What allows cnidarians to be able to bend in different directions?
6. How do nerve cells work with muscle cells to give the cnidarian movement?
7. Why does the video claim that cnidarians were the first active predators on Earth?
8. How fast are nematocysts deployed?
9. What characteristics of nematocysts make them effective for hunting and defense?
10. How do anemones fight for space on a rock?
11. What do coral polyps eat?
12. What do we call a community of coral polyps?
13. What special defensive ability does the anemone called *Stomphia* have?
14. Name one group of cnidarians that dominates the upper and possibly the lower regions of the ocean water column?



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15. How long can a Praya's body extend, making it the world's longest predator?

16. Define in your own words the vocabulary words at the end of the video.

Nematocyst:

Toxin:

Arsenal:

Troll:

Medusa:

Polyp:

Decoy:

Supplementary Questions

1. How do the animals move?
2. Name and describe the two different versions of the cnidarian body plan.
3. What is "symmetry"? What kind of symmetry do cnidarians have? How is it different from the symmetry of your own body?