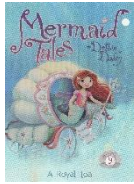


# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:



### Book Nine: A Royal Tea

**beach morning glory:** This coastal flower grows on many islands and on six continents.

**cleaner wrasse:** This silvery blue fish has a black band down its side. It “cleans” other fish by eating parasites and dead tissue right off their skin. It sometimes even cleans divers!



**coconut:** The inside of the coconut fruit contains a tasty coconut milk. Coconuts grow on land, but sometimes they fall into the ocean.

**comb jelly:** The comb jelly was accidentally put into the Black Sea. It is causing trouble for the fishermen there because it eats fish eggs. This makes for far fewer fish.



**conch:** These large sea snail shells are sometimes used for decoration.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**dolphins:** The Risso's dolphin, also known as a gray dolphin, can dive for up to a half-hour.

**feather star:** The tropical species of feather star has about a hundred arms!

**hagfish:** This long fish ties itself in knots and squeezes out slime!

**honeycomb worm:** This creature is very tiny, but builds large sand tubes that look like honeycombs.



**jellyfish:** There are many different types of jellyfish. Some of them glow!

**John Dory:** The John Dory is a very thin fish that can shoot out its jaw and swallow its food quickly.

**killer whale:** This black- and white creature is not a whale, but a dolphin.



# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:



**lichen:** When algae and fungus grow together they can form a compound organism called lichen. If you see orange spots on rocks near the sea, they could be encrusting lichens.

**longhorn cowfish:** This fish has very long, fleshy horns above its eyes.

**octopus:** A giant octopus squirts out purple ink when it's frightened.



**oysters:** Oysters have been eaten by people for many years. In some waters, they have almost vanished.

**penguin:** This marine bird cannot fly.



**plankton:** Plankton are small animals that float freely on the surface of the ocean.

**pulse coral:** This soft coral constantly opens and closes its feathery tentacles.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**sandcastle worm:** This creature uses glue from an organ on its head to put together sand and bits of shell to make its house.

**sea cucumber:** This creature crawls along the ocean floor eating mud. It is almost colorless, but it glows!



**sea lavender:** Common sea lavender is a flower that grows near the coast.

**seaweed:** There are many different types of seaweed. Cactus seaweed looks like a mini underwater cactus. Kelp is a type of seaweed.

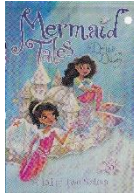


**sunfish:** Ocean sunfish drift on the surface of the water looking for floating jellyfish to eat .

**vampire squids:** This is the only squid that spends its entire life in deep water.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:



### Book Ten: A Tail of Two Sisters

**BARNACLE:** Adult barnacles affix themselves to one spot, like a rock or ship.



**BARREL SPONGE:** This sponge can get quite large, but its surface is hard.



**BOXFISH:** The spotted boxfish will ooze poison slime from its skin to keep predators from eating it. Luckily, mermaids are immune to the poison.

**CLAM:** There are 14,000 types of clams. They have a shell that connects on one side.

**CONCH:** If you go to the beach and someone offers to sell you a conch shell, please don't buy it. Conch are at risk for extinction because people have collected their beautiful shells for many years.



**CORAL:** Daisy coral grows to look like a field of beautiful flowers.

**CRAB:** Marine crabs are arthropods and tend to live alone on the ocean bottom.



**CUP CORAL:** The Devonshire cup coral is one of the few corals that live alone. It will attach itself to a rock or even a shipwreck.

**HAGFISH:** This fish should be named "slimefish" because it can squirt slime out of the pores on the side of its body!



**JELLYFISH:** The deep-sea jellyfish looks like it is wearing a ballet tutu!

**LICHEN:** Black tufted lichen is found on sunny rocks and has small bumps on its branch tips.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:



**KILLER WHALE:** This dolphin is black and white and can be up to thirty feet long.

**MOLLUSK:** Oysters and octopuses are part of this family of creatures.

**OCTOPUS:** When an octopus is threatened, it will squirt an ink-like substance.



**ORANGE SEA PEN:** This creature looks amazing—like an old-fashioned pen made from a sharpened feather.

**PLANKTON:** Tiny creatures that float with the ocean currents and live near the surface are called plankton. Some plankton glow!

**MAGNIFICENT FEATHER DUSTER:** This worm has lots of brown and white tentacles that look like an old-fashioned feather duster.

**MEGAMOUTH SHARK:** This huge shark is thought to attract food with a glowing mouth!



**NARWHAL:** This thirteen to twenty foot whale lives in polar waters and is known mostly for its unicorn-like tusk.

**RIBBON WORMS:** This thin worm can grow to be as long as the width of a football field!

**SAILFISH:** The sailfish's long, spear-like jaw looks similar to the swordfish's upper jaw, but the sailfish also has a huge, sail-like dorsal fin. It folds the fin away for fast swimming.

**SEA CUCUMBERS:** The deep sea cucumber crawls along the ocean floor, eating the organic matter it finds.

**SEA LAMPREY:** This eel-like creature has no jaws. It uses a sucker that attaches to other fish to suck out food. Due to poisoning and trapping it is becoming rare.

**SEA LETTUCE:** Sea lettuce grows along the shoreline in most parts of the world. It is eaten by animals and people.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**SEA MOUSE:** This segmented worm lives in muddy sand



**SEAWEED:** Can you grow twenty-four inches in one day? Giant kelp, a type of seaweed, can!

**SHELL:** Many animals, including oysters, use shells as a home. You may find pretty shells washed up on the shore.



**SPONGE:** Sponges are common on rocky reefs, shipwrecks, and coral reefs. They can be circular or tube-like.

**SPOTTED REEF CRAB:** This slow-moving crab likes to feed at night, which means it is nocturnal.

**VIPERFISH:** Sloane's viperfish is a long, thin deep-water fish with a large head and huge, barbed teeth.

**WHITE SEA WHIP:** Sea whips look like strings waving from the ocean floor. They are related to sea fans.

**YELLOW SPLASH LICHEN:** If you see yellow spots on rocks near the shore, they are probably yellow splash lichen.



# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

### Book Eleven: Polar Bear Express



**BARRACUDA:** The fast great barracuda has needle-sharp teeth and a long body. Eating even a tiny bite of barracuda meat can make a human sick.

**CRAB:** The tiny pea crab lives inside a mussel shell and eats the plankton that getstrapped inside.

**DOLPHIN:** Bottlenose dolphins are often seen following ships and even body-surfing on the ships' waves.



**LONGHORN COWFISH:** This fish gets its name from the long fleshy horns above its eyes.

**MANTA RAY:** The manta ray is the largest of all the rays. It can grow up to twenty-six feet from the tip of one wing to the other.



Luckily, it only eats plankton and small fish.



# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**OCTOPUS:** The dumbo octopus lives in the deep sea and has two large fins that look like ears.

**OLIVE SEA SNAKE:** This snake lives in the water near Australia. It has short fangs and toxic venom.

**PADDLE WORM:** This green worm lives in shallow water and on the shore. If you see something green about the size of a marble near the water, it might be a cluster of paddle worm eggs.

**PARROTFISH:** This brightly colored fish has teeth that form a parrot-like beak.



**POLAR BEAR:** The polar bear is the largest bear. Polar bears are good swimmers and have an excellent sense of smell.

**PUFFERFISH:** If something scares a pufferfish, it will swallow water and blow up to a much larger size.



# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**RIBBON WORMS:** This worm can grow as long as a football field is wide!

**SEA CUCUMBERS:** Deep sea cucumbers are like vacuum cleaners on the bottom of the ocean. They are colorless, but glow all over with bioluminescent light.

**SEA HORSES:** The male sea horse has a pouch, somewhat like that of a kangaroo. The sea horse carries eggs in the pouch until they hatch.

**SEA SLUG:** The hermissenda sea slug should be called the porcupine sea slug. It saves the stinging cells from any creature it captures. The hermissenda puts the stinging cells on its own back for protection.

**SEA SQUIRT:** The Colonial sea squirt lives in urn-shaped colonies and has a green color.

**SEA TULIP:** The sea tulip is a type of giant sea squirt that has a long stalk. Its body is on the end of the stalk and is bright yellow.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:



**SEAWEED:** Seaweed does not have roots, but floats freely.

**SHARPNOSE SEVENGILL SHARK:** This deep water shark has a pointed snout and is listed on the IUCN Red List of endangered species.

**SHORE CLINGFISH:** This small fish can cling to rocks with a powerful sucker formed from its fins. It might be called duckfish because its snout looks like a duck's bill.

**STARFISH:** Most starfish have five arms. If one of the arms is lost they can regrow it!



**STOPLIGHT LOOSEJAW:** This deep-sea fish's mouth doesn't have a bottom. This fish has large photophores under each eye to create a light show.



**SWORDFISH:** The upper jawbone of a swordfish looks a lot like a sword.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**TURTLE:** The loggerhead turtle is the second-largest marine turtle. It eats crabs, lobsters, and clams.

**WHALE:** The blue whale is the largest animal that has ever lived. It can eat more than 6,600 pounds of food a day!

### Book Twelve: Mermaid Star (subject to change)



**ANGELFISH:** The queen angelfish is one of the most colorful reef fish in the Caribbean. The thin blue and yellow fish nibbles on sponges, its main food source.

**BASKET SEA STAR:** This sea star can live to be thirty-five years old and looks like a funny baby octopus.

**BISCUIT SEA STAR:** This sea star is bright orange-red and lives around Australia.

**BLACK-LIP OYSTER:** The black-lip pearl oyster begins life as a male before changing into a female two or three years later. It is famous because it sometimes creates prized black pearls.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**CONCH:** The queen conch has a large spiral shell that is sold in gift shops in some countries. The queen conch is a mollusk that has been used for food and bait by humans. This has caused a decrease in the conch population. It is illegal to take a queen conch from the water in Florida.



**COPEPOD:** This tiny creature makes up most of the total zooplankton population. Plankton is a food source for many marine animals.

**DAISY CORAL:** The daisy coral looks very much like a daisy flower. The mouth is in the middle.

**JELLYFISH:** Deep-sea jellyfish are shaped liked a ballet tutu. It can actually squirt out a glowing secretion to confuse its enemies.



**KELP:** Giant kelp is the biggest of all the seaweeds.

**LAMPERN:** The lampren is also known as the river lamprey. Adults never get very far from the coast.

**LICHEN:** Sea Ivory is a type of gray lichen that often grows on vertical rock faces.

**PIDDOCK:** The common piddock can squirt out a glowing blue liquid when it is afraid.

**SABLEFISH:** Sablefish breed slowly. It takes fourteen years to replace one that is caught.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:

**SAILFISH:** The Atlantic sailfish has a long upper jaw like a sword fish. The sailfish has a huge sail-like dorsal fin, which it folds away for fast swimming.

**SAND WEED:** This type of seaweed forms a spongy mat that often covers rocks near the shore.

**SEA HORSE:** Sea horses do look a lot like horses, except that sea horses do not have legs and are tiny in comparison.



**SEA STAR:** Commonly known as star fish, this star-shaped creature lives on the ocean floor. Its mouth is on its underside and it has five or more arms.

**SEAWEED:** There are over six thousand types of seaweed. One type of red seaweed that grows near shores is called Irish Moss.

**SHARK:** The great white shark has a reputation for being the most dangerous shark in the ocean. Their natural food includes fish, seals, and even penguins.



**STAR PUFFERFISH:** This is a giant among pufferfish. It has black-spotted skin that is covered with prickles and grows to be about four feet long. If it is scared, it swallows water and puffs up to appear much larger.

**SUNFLOWER SEA STAR:** This sea star looks like a mop!

**SUNSTAR:** This sea star has fourteen arms and will even eat other sea stars.

# Mermaid Tales by Debbie Dadey

## Glossary:



**SWORDFISH:** The swordfish uses its sharp pointed bill for hunting and protection.

**VENUS COMB:** This snail has a shell that looks like a two-sided comb.

**WATER FLEA:** The tiny water flea has a large eye and feathery swimming appendages.

**WHITE SEA WHIP:** Sea whips are similar to sea fans, but sea whips look like tiny fingers sticking up out of the sea floor.

**ZEBRA SHARK:** The young zebra shark has stripes, but those change into spots as it grows older. At night it hunts for mollusks, crustaceans, and small fish to eat.