

Crawfish

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What are crawfish?

- Crawfish are crustaceans. Other organisms found in the family crustacea include shrimp, lobsters, crabs, barnacles, krill, and woodlice (roly polies).
- Crustaceans have an outer shell or exoskeleton made of calcium and a protein, chitin, pronounced “kie-ten.”
- They have segmented bodies and are good swimmers. Most crustaceans are aquatic, living in freshwater or marine ecosystems.
- Crawfish are fondly known in Louisiana as “mudbugs” and “crawdads,” while in other states “crayfish” is the name given to our “beloved boiler.”
- Louisiana produces more than 90% of the crawfish consumed in the United States, and crawfish farming is a major food industry in Louisiana.
- Louisianians consume 70% of the crawfish.

Where do they live?

- Sometimes you can spot a crawfish mound.
- The mound or chimney is formed as a crawfish digs in the ground.
- The holes can be 3 feet deep or greater. Inside these holes or burrows is where the crawfish will rest and spend most of its time.
- The burrows are a source of water for the crawfish. Follow these links to learn more about crawfish.

Picture It!

Check out these pictures of Crawfish and their habitat!



Image by Sarah Rayner

Learning Links

Take a look at these materials to further your experience!

Read a story, Listen to a story, Take a tour here: <https://bit.ly/30v3yAQ>

[How to Peel and Eat Crawfish, Very Funny.](#)

[Information and video on crawfish farming](#)

Activity Corner

Check out these awesome activities for an enriching learning experience!

How to Create a Crawfish Origami

Make a crawfish using your hands and feet and red paint

Crawfish Noodling

Crawfish Coloring Pages