

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Sunflower Sea Star

*Pycnopodia helianthoides*

The Sunflower Sea Star is one of the largest and fastest-moving sea stars in the world, known for its impressive size and multitude of arms, which can number up to 24. This invertebrate is found along the coast of North America.

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Invertebrate

**Family:** Asteroiidae

**Habitat:** Coastal ocean, rocky bottoms, and kelp forests

**Diet:** Carnivore

**Conservation status:** Critically Endangered

**Lifespan:** 3-9 years

**Weight:** 3.5-5 kg

**Scientific name:** *Pycnopodia helianthoides*

### Did you know?

- The Sunflower Sea Star can have up to 24 arms, making it one of the sea stars with the most appendages in the world.
- Sunflower Sea Stars can move at speeds of up to one meter per minute, unusually fast for sea stars. They can regenerate lost arms, sometimes regrowing...

### What I learned

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