

Christian Liberty *Nature Reader* Book 2

Third Edition



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ANSWER KEY

Christian Liberty Press

28711 3/19

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Christian Liberty Press

502 West Euclid Avenue
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60004
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Cover image: Jenny Mathews, copyright © 2019

ISBN 978-1-629821-39-9 (Print)
978-1-629821-40-5 (eBook PDF)

Printed in the United States of America

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Introduction

The *Christian Liberty Nature Reader* series is an engaging set of readers that will spark your child's interest in God's world. This series can also be used for teaching science in the lower grades. To help instructors grade their students' daily work, answers have been provided to the Review questions found at the end of each story in the book. These questions are essentially objective in nature and are based on the information in the respective chapters.

Students should be expected to provide the same information, though not necessarily the same wording, when answering these questions. Also, the Review questions and the answers in this key can be used to foster discussions or group learning experiences.

May God grant you wisdom as you seek to introduce the wonder and order of His creation to your students. Learn to look for the amazing things around you, and thank God for all you have.

*The Staff of Christian Liberty Press
Arlington Heights, Illinois*

Text Key

Unit 1: All About Crabs

Mr. and Mrs. Crab (page 3)

1. Mr. Crab has a smooth, flat outer “shell” on his back, eight legs, and two “hands,” or claws. One claw is large; the other claw is small.
2. Mr. Crab digs out his house in the sand.
3. Mr. Crab divides his house into a hall, a bedroom, and a pantry.
4. A crab’s eyes are set on pegs or stalks. The crab can push the eye-pegs out and pull them in.

Mr. Crab and His House (page 6)

1. Mr. Crab scoops out the sand with his big claw and folds his claw to carry the sand. He takes the sand to the top of his hole and jerks his arm, throwing the sand in a heap.
2. Crabs like to eat flies, gnats, ants, ladybugs, other little insects, and seaweed.
3. While the tide is high, crabs stay in their house and eat insects and seaweed they have stored away.

More About Mr. Crab (page 9)

1. The thin, hard “shell” that covers Mr. Crab’s body is called an exoskeleton.
2. Mr. Crab can live and breathe either in the water or on the land.
3. If a crab’s eyestalk is cut off, it takes up to a year to grow back.

Mr. and Mrs. Crab Get a New Coat (page 12)

1. Mr. Crab is in a hard exoskeleton that will not stretch.

2. Mr. Crab changes his “coat” by molting. He pulls his legs, claws, and back out of it. As Mr. Crab slips out of his exoskeleton, he pulls out his “feet” and claws.
3. Mr. Crab’s soft skin is made of lime and a kind of “glue.”
4. When Mrs. Crab and their children molt, Mr. Crab stays near and tries to keep them from being hurt.

What Mr. Crab Does (page 16)

1. When Mr. Crab sees some other crab near his house, he becomes angry and stands high on his toes and pulls in his eyestalks for fear they will be hurt. Mr. Crab spreads out his big claw and runs at his enemy, hitting it with his big claw.
2. If Mr. Crab’s claw, eye, or back is hurt in a fight, he runs home to hide until a new eye, claw, or leg can grow.
3. Mr. Crab fears birds most because they eat small crabs, and he cannot fight a bird that is larger than he is.
4. When the tide comes in, Mr. Crab runs into his house and shuts the door of his house with his big claw.

Food for Mr. Crab (page 19)

1. The fiddler crab makes music by rubbing the knobs on its big claw on the edge of its exoskeleton.
2. Mr. Crab likes to eat the grubs of flies and the tiger beetle.
3. Mr. Crab does not trouble the long worms he finds.
4. Mr. Crab needs to pry open or crush the shell of a limpet to eat it.

Some Other Crabs (page 23)

1. The spider crab uses the point on its head for digging its way into sand and mud.
2. The shape of the horseshoe crab’s exoskeleton is the shape of a horse’s hoof with a long tail that has sharp points on the edges.
3. The horseshoe crab likes to eat worms.

4. A crab fishes by getting into a good place, popping out its eyestalks to see around it, and striking out with its big claw when something floats by that it likes to eat.

The Hermit Crab (page 27)

1. The hermit crab steals a house because its back is long and soft, not hard like the backs of other crabs. If it cannot find a hard cover, it will die or be eaten by other crabs or fish.
2. The hermit crab clasps its tail-hook to a small, round post in the top of the curl of the shell it finds for its new house.
3. The small, pink sea creature helps one kind of hermit crab by catching food or hiding the door of the crab's shell. This sea creature can also build more shell on the edge of the shell in which the crab lives. Also, the frills of this creature keep fish and other foes away because these frills can sting.
4. In the South Seas, some of these crabs live in coconut shells.

More About Crabs (page 30)

1. Some of the enemies of crabs are fish, birds, and people.
2. The pea crab goes to live in the shell of the oyster.
3. The spider crab hangs the “ribbons” of seaweed it cuts up on the thorns or hooks that cover its exoskeleton.
4. The back feet of a blue crab are unique because they are wide like “paddles” or “oars,” which it uses for swimming.
5. Sand crabs hide by digging into the sand very fast, going in backwards. Their sandy color also helps them to hide.

The Uses of Crabs (page 33)

1. A young crab needs a new coat (or exoskeleton) often.
2. Very often, an adult crab is nearly covered with limpets, or small snails.
3. Birds and fish like to eat crabs.
4. Crabs help to keep the sea and the seashore clean by eating nearly all kinds of dead fish and animals that would spoil and make a bad smell if left on the sand.