## **Phylum Echinodermata**

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#### CS

id filled canals with numerous comotory appendages etry in adult

## **Echinoderms Skeleton**



- Have an <u>internal</u> skeleton of calcium carbonate
  - Ossicles vary in size and structure and are manufactured by specialized cells
- Feeding biology?

## Water vascular system



- A separate coelom is used with interconnecting fluid filled tubes and canals
- A ring canal circles the mouth and gives off 5 radial canals
- The radial canal is exposed and runs along the ambulacral groove

#### Water Vascular System



## **Tube Feet**



- The ampullae is a small ball that sits above the tube foot
- Contraction and expansion of the ampulla accomplishes movement

## **Mutable Connective Tissue**

 Another unique Echinodermata characteristic is the presence of mutable connective tissue

## **Taxonomic Summary**



- Phylum Echinodermata
  - Class Crinoidea
  - Class Concentricycloidea
  - Class Stelleroidea
    - Subclass Asteroidea
    - Subclass Ophiuroidea
  - Class Echinoidea
  - Class Holothuroidea

#### **Subclass Asteroidea**



## **Sea Stars**





#### **Pedicellariae**



• Specialized pinchers found on the aboral surface.

# Reproduction

- Can reproduce asexually by disk division
- Sexual Reproduction
  - Dioecious with sperm or eggs produced in 2 or more gonads in each arm
  - Larval stage =
    bipinnaria



## Regeneration

- Many species autotomize, leaving predators with a nutritious souvenir while they escape
- Most spp. can regenerate from fragments that include the disk



## **Subclass Ophiuroidea**

- Defining Characteristics
  - Well-developed ossicles in the arms forming a system of articulating vertebrae
  - The oral surface bears
    5 pair of bursal sacs



#### **Brittle Star Structure**



Phylum Echinodermata

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## Reproduction

- Similar to Asteroids; yet a pluteus larva is formed
- Regenerate well, and one spp., in our area reproduces asexually by disk division



## **Class Echinoidea**

- Defining characteristics
  - Ossicles are joined to form a rigid test
  - Adults possess a feeding structure called Aristotle's lantern
- Two attributes: mobile spines, and hollow skeleton or test



## **Sea Urchin Structure**



## Pedicellariae

- Pedicellariae prevent fouling of test and are used in defense
- More complex than sea stars and are located on tall moveable stalks





# Reproduction

- Most conspicuous organs are those responsible for reproduction
- At spawning the entire coelom will fill with sperm or eggs
- Pluteus larva is formed



## **Sand Dollars**

- Irregular: non-spherical variously depressed
  - Anus is shifted to the oral surface posterior to the mouth creating bilateral symmetry



## **Class Holothuroidea**

- Defining characteristics
  - Worm shaped body, greatly elongated along the aboral and oral axis
  - The calcareous ossicles are reduced in size and embedded individually in the body wall
  - Highly branched muscular respiratory structures

## **Holothuroidea Feeding**

- Possess retractile feeding tentacle that surrounds the mouth
- While suspension or deposit feeding each tentacle is cleaned in the mouth



#### **Holothuroidea Structure**



## Ossicles

- Although somewhat soft they do have an internal skeleton
  - The skeletal elements (ossicles) are microscopic with complex shapes
  - May compose up to 80% of the dry body weight



## Respiration

#### • Respiratory trees



## Defense

- Many spp. have powerful toxins in the body wall
- Cuverian tubules
  - Sticky and toxic tentacles which are shot out the anus
- Also eviscerates to avoid predation
  - Internal organs regenerate after a period of time