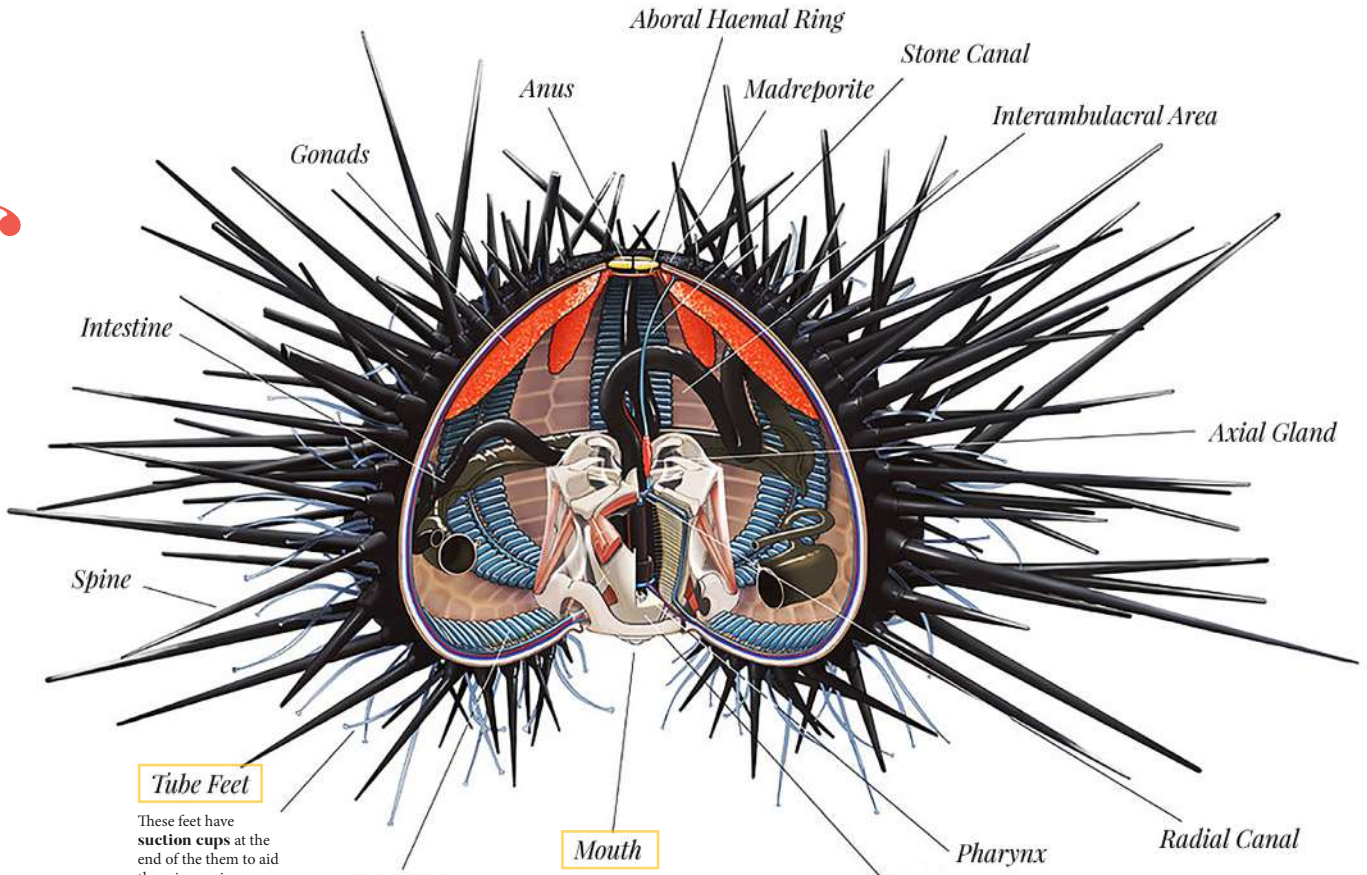


your guide to the

astropyga radiata

anatomy



Tube Feet

These feet have **suction cups** at the end of them to aid them in moving across the ocean through a **water-vascular system** within their bodies.

Mouth

The mouth contains five plates known as **pyramids**, which has specialised muscles that can scrape, pull and tear effectively.

Aristotle's Lantern

Refers to the arrangement of the five pyramids, or 'teeth'.

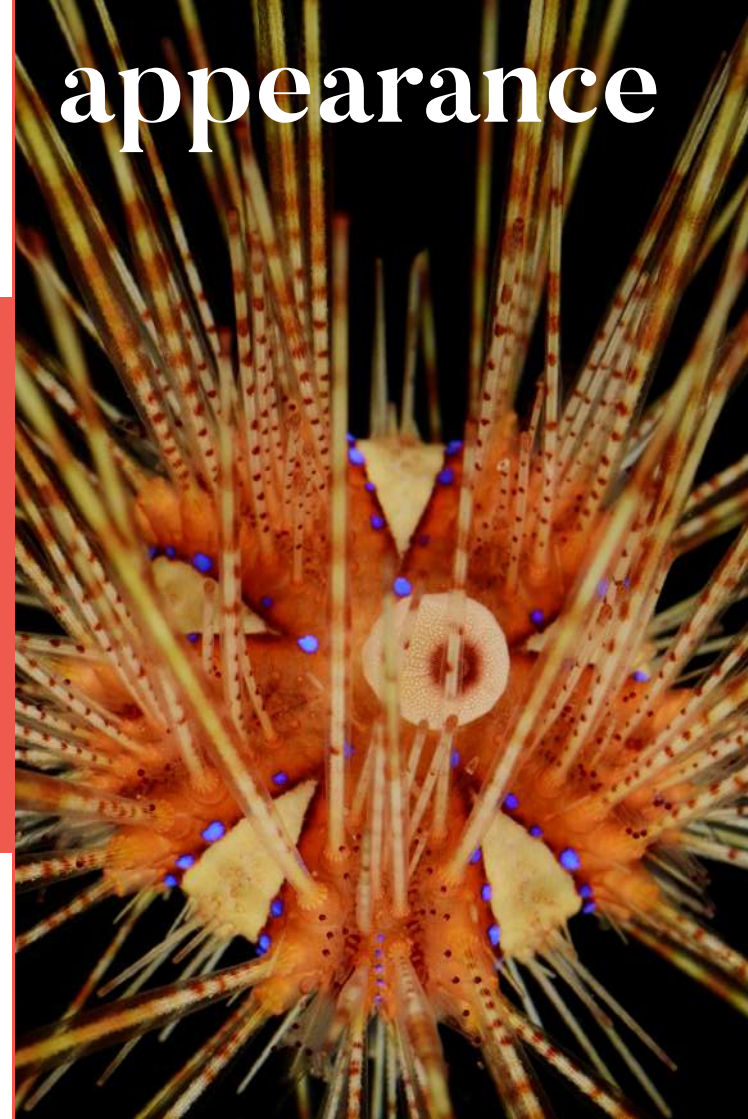


mobility

Fig 1.1 (Left):
A close up on the tiny tube feet on the underside of urchins — these help them move around.

The *astropyga radiata* is one of the most mobile urchins within its species, despite its reliance on the crab.

Fig 1.2 (Right):
A close-up on the urchin's iridescent blue dots.



appearance



feeding

Their beak-like mouth has specialised muscles that allow it to scrape and pull away at plant and animal matter to eat.

The spines of the sea urchin are used to:

1. Protect them from predators
2. Move around
3. Trap floating food particles

Smaller claws called pedicellaries are hidden among the spines — they deliver stings, and help to keep the urchin clean.

Fig 1.3 (Left):
A close-up on the mouth of the urchin. Five plates are arranged in 'Aristotle's Lantern'.

Fig 1.4 (Right):
*The spines of the *astropyga radiata*.*

protection



best buds



Fig 1.5:
*The urchin
crab (dorippe
frascone) carries
an astrofyga
radiata on its
back.*