Camouflaging crustaceans!

One of the best disguise masters on the coast is the decorator crab. These clever camouflaging crustaceans (try saying that five times fast!) like to cover their shell with seaweed, sponge and anything else they can weave onto their spiny shell, or glue with their sticky spit!

This activity will get you to imagine one of these crabs in your own backyard or local park, as you create and camouflage your very own crustacean!

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

Before you start, make sure you have permission from home or school to collect flowers and leaves. If collecting items in parks and other places, only choose items that have fallen on the ground, please don't pull off parts of plants as these are homes for animals.

You might also need to use scissors for this activity, so make sure to ask an adult for help if you need.

There are two activity options: you can choose either one or both.

1. Create a camouflage crab coat

o Print or draw your own version of the crab on the following page
o Collect leaves, flowers and sticks to cover your crab shell so it can camouflage
o Take a picture of your crab camouflaging in your chosen habitat
o Reuse your paper to make more, or glue on your items to keep

2. Camouflaging crab cut-out

o Print or draw your own version of the crab on the following page
o Cut out the crab carapace (the back shell) so you have a "crab window"
o Walk around your garden, school yard or local park holding up your crab
o Take a photo or draw what your crab shell would look like camouflaged there

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We hope you enjoy creating your own Camouflaging Crustaceans!

Once you're done, you can share a photo to inspire others on our Facebook page or email to education@gorcc.com.au!
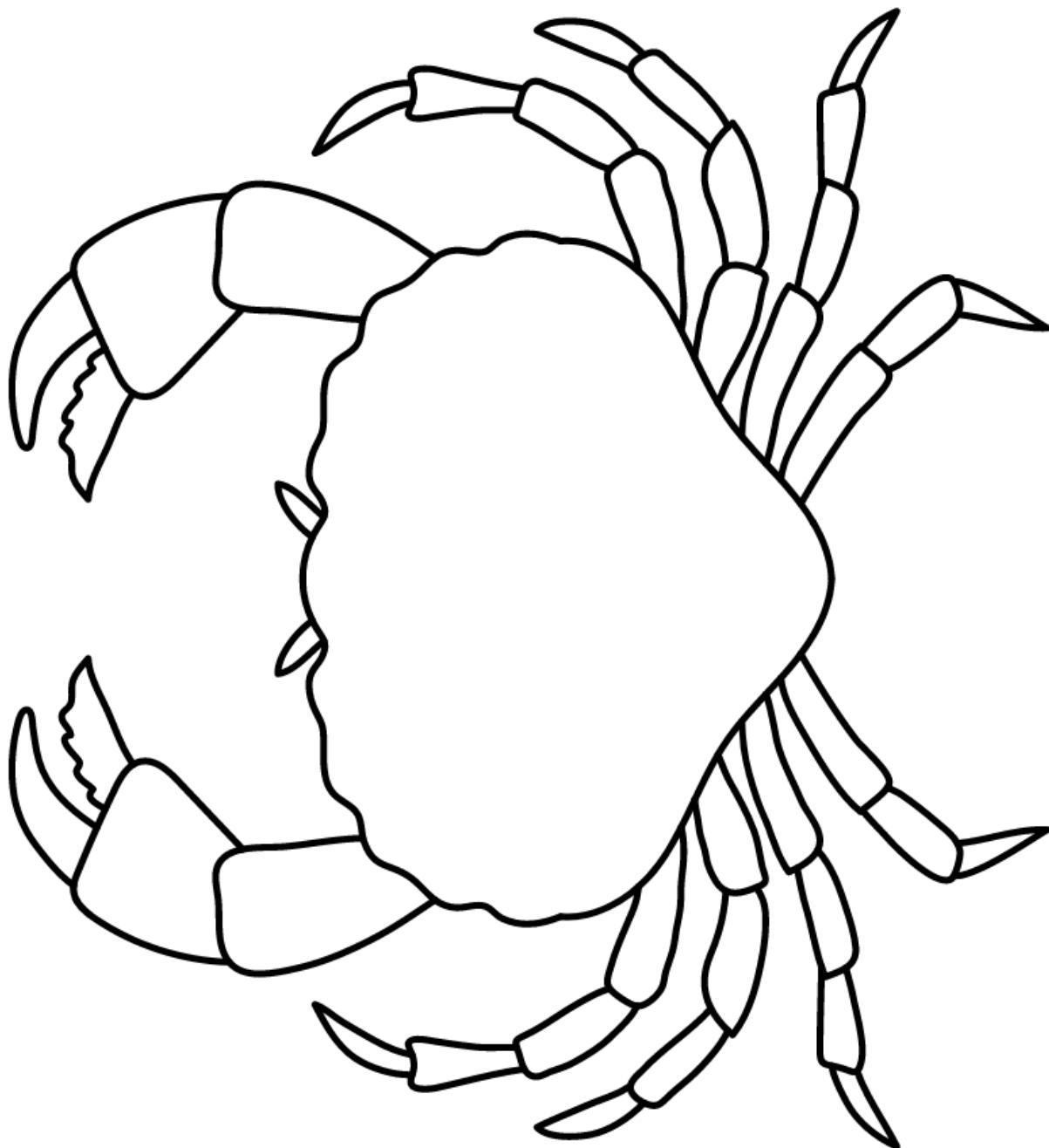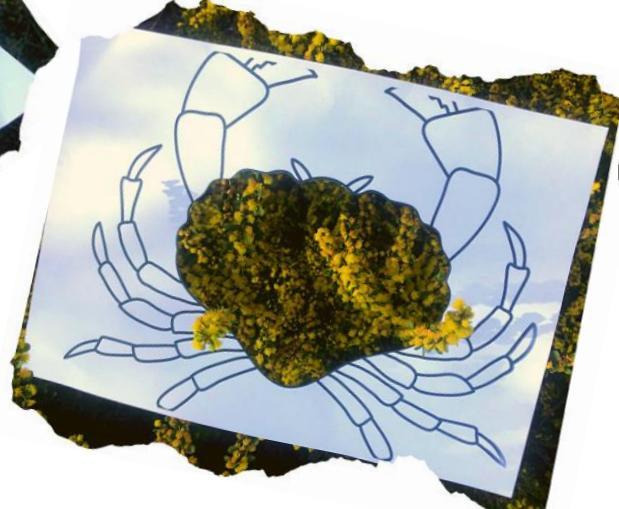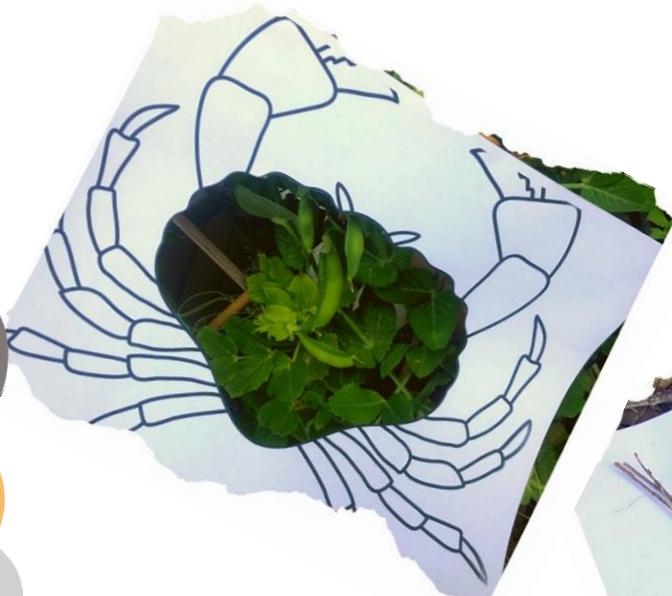
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