

NAME: _____ PERIOD: ___ DATE: _____

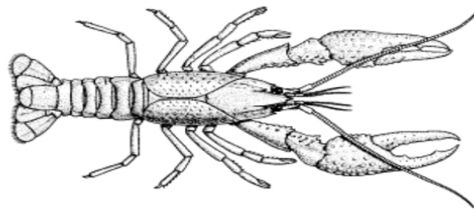
Crayfish Lab Worksheet

Introduction:

Crayfish live in streams, ponds, and swamps, usually protected under rocks and vegetation. They may walk slowly over the substrate of their habitat, but they can also swim rapidly using their tail. These organisms are segmented.

Procedure:

1. On the picture below, label the following structures: Walking legs, compound eyes, cephalothorax, abdomen, and antennae,



Give the function of the following external parts:

- a). Antenna _____
- b). Swimmerets _____
- c). Walking Legs _____
- d). Tail _____

2. Examine the length of the swimmeret closest to the carapace. If it is longer than the others the animal is a male. What is the sex of your specimen? _____.

3. Locate the carapace at the end of the cephalothorax. Place the point of your scissors under the posterior edge and cut straight down the center to the head. Make two lateral cuts, one near the head and the other near the end of the carapace. Remove this section of the exoskeleton. You have exposed the gills. Describe the gills:

What is the function of the gills? _____

4. Grab one of the walking legs and move it back and forth while looking at the gills. Explain what is happening (Be specific).