

Fiddler Crab Notes

- They are crustaceans. (A crustacean is an animal whose bodies are covered with a hard shell.)
 - Ex) lobsters, crayfish, and shrimp
- Crustaceans are a subgroup of Arthropods.
- Crustaceans have segmented bodies and jointed appendages.
- 4,500 different kinds of crabs (62 different Fiddler)

Fiddler Crab Notes

- They live near or in the sea, either in tidal mud flats or in the ocean.
- They breathe with gills and are cold-blooded.
- They are semiterrestrial (living part time on land and part time on water).
- They are dark in the sunlight and paler when it is cloudy.
- They stay in borrows when it is high tide, and they

Fiddler Crab Notes

come out when it is low tide.

- They are crepuscular feeders. (Eat in the morning and evening twilight)
- The male waves its bigger claw to attract females, discourage rivals, and defend territory. (Gives common name)
- They dig with both claws, but only eat with the small claw.

Fiddler Crab Notes

- If the large claw is broken, a new feeding claw will grow and the other claw will grow bigger.
- Known as “deposit feeders”
- Eat bacteria, algae, and dead fish and other creatures
- Digs burrows to provide protection, places to mate, and places to winter.