

3. One advantage of radial symmetry is that the organism is structured so that all the tube feet direct food into a central location.

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1. Echinoderms can use their feet to grip, move food, and cling to surfaces.
2. Answers will vary. Students should understand that the tube feet enable the echinoderm to adapt to living on the ocean bottom.



1. This echinoderm has hundreds of tiny feet on each appendage. What might be an advantage of having so many feet?
2. If you knew that this organism lived in the ocean, would you expect it to swim freely or dwell near the bottom?
3. This organism has several similar appendages and a mouth in its center. Why might its radial symmetry be an advantage?