March 30, 2019 Hermit Crabs Are Drawn to the Dead

Article-Based Observation, Q

Directions: After reading the article "<u>Hermit crabs are drawn to the dead</u>," answer the questions below.

1. How do hermit crabs get their homes?

2. How do hermit crabs "remodel" their shells? What are the effects of this remodeling?

3. What hermit crab behavior did biologist Mark Laidre and graduate student Leah Valdes observe on the beach, and what conclusion did they draw from those observations?

4. Apart from land-dwelling hermit crabs, what other animals were included in the study? What did the researchers find based on their comparisons?

5. Why might land hermit crabs have developed a strong attraction to the scents of other dead hermit crabs?

6. What two factors make finding a new shell challenging for land hermit crabs as compared with sea hermit crabs? Explain how each factor presents a challenge for crabs.

7. Why does ecologist Chia-Hsuan Hsu say people shouldn't take shells from the beach?

8. After reading the article, name one literary device that the author uses to grab readers' attention and explain how it relates to the story.