

## Pagoo by Holling C. Holling

Instructions: Keep a notebook. Go more (or less) in-depth depending upon your child's interest level and age.

### Chapter 1: Pagoo Might be a Hermit Crab

1. Learn more about hermit crabs!
  - a. What are the physical characteristics of a hermit crab?
  - b. What do hermit crabs eat?
  - c. What kind of habitat do they live in?
2. Draw the life cycle of a hermit crab.
3. Are there any plants or animals mentioned in this chapter that are particularly interesting to your children? If so, choose one or two (or more!) and find books about them. Or look up information on them and write a short report or even a poem about them!

### Chapter 2: Shifting Tides and Changing Hides

1. What is a tide pool? Research (using library books or the internet with a parent's help) tide pools, how they are formed, and what kinds of animals live in or near them.
2. What is a tide? What causes tides? Why are they important?
3. Research information on molting. Describe the process by which Pagoo molted.
4. Draw the life cycle of a hermit crab.

### Chapter 3: Pagoo Is a Hermit Crab!

1. What is plankton?
2. As Pagoo became a young boy, he started to feel unimportant. Write a letter to Pagoo telling him why he is important or giving him advice.
3. Look up some of the tide pool creatures (for example: water fleas or crawfish). Draw pictures of them or describe them in your notebook. Jot down some information about them.

### Chapter 4: At the Ringside

1. What is oxygen? Who needs it? Why? Where does it come from?
2. What is algae? Describe some kinds of algae. How is algae formed?
3. Draw (or create out of playdoh) a small hermit crab. Then draw (or create out of playdoh) a hermit crab that is 12 times bigger than Pagoo!
4. Look for metaphors in this chapter. (If your child doesn't know what a metaphor is, look it up and figure it out!) Make note of the metaphors you find and put them in your notebook.

## Chapter 6: A Starfish , and a Few Barnacles

1. Research more tide pool fauna that you haven't already researched (such as starfish, sea turtles, whales).
2. Add to your list of metaphors.

## Chapter 7: Room and Board, Travel Included

1. Add to your list of metaphors.
2. Look up more of the animals found in tide pools (like barnacles, water fleas, or crabs).
3. Draw the life cycle of a crab.

## Chapter 8: Around Snail Cousin's Rock

1. Old Pal says that a snail shell should be Pagoo's home. Research information on snails.
2. Draw the life cycle of a snail. What do they eat? Where do they live? How do they choose their shells? Do they ever change shells? Why or why not?
3. Draw and color your own snail in a shell. Or make one out of scraps of paper (like a collage), playdoh, or paint.
4. Look up and record more information about the plants found in tide pools such as eelgrass or seaweed.
5. Look up and record more information about animals found in tide pools such as univalve mussels, sea slugs, etc.

## Chapter 9 – In, Out, Up with Traveling Towers

1. Research information about how and why animals use camouflage.
2. Add to your notebook pages about tide pool animals. (Possible additions are sculpin, sandpiper, gull, clam, sea hare.)
3. Research why salt water is salty. How did it get that way? Why did the water in the tide pool become saltier? To help answer your questions, do a simple science experiment! Mix 2 tablespoons of salt into 2 cups of water. Pour the water into a pan and set the pan in a warm, dry place. (Place the pan outside in the sun if you can. If not, set it inside near a sunny window.) Over the next few days, allow the pan to sit so the water can evaporate. What happens? (Help your child observe and understand that, as the water evaporates, the remaining water becomes even more saturated with salt since less water remains for the salt to mix with. Help your child understand that, as the water in the tide pool evaporates, the same thing happens and the tide pool water becomes saltier.)
4. How does a bird eat a clam? Draw a picture to put in your notebook.
5. Have you ever eaten a clam? Buy some clams and try a simple recipe!

You'll need:

1 tablespoon of extra virgin olive oil

2 cloves of garlic (chopped)

3/4 cup vegetable broth (or chicken stock)

1 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 lbs fresh clams

Fresh ground black pepper (if desired)

¼ cup fresh basil, chopped (if desired)

In a stock pot, heat the oil.

Add garlic and saute for 1 minute. (Be careful not to let the garlic burn!)

Add broth, butter, and (if using) basil. Bring to a boil.

Add clams, cover with a lid, and cook for 4 to 5 minutes.

Remove lid, stir well, replace lid, and continue cooking until clams open.

Use a slotted spoon to remove the clams and put them in bowls.

Season the broth with salt and pepper (to taste), and pour over clams.

Enjoy!

## Chapter 10 – Houses are Scarce in Tide-Pool Town

1. What is a habitat? What does Pagoo need to survive in his habitat? What do you need to survive in your habitat?
2. Add to your tide pool plants and animals pages in your notebook. (Plant suggestion: sea lettuce. Animal suggestions: barnacle, abalone, sea urchin, sand dollar, sponge.)
3. What are vertebrates? What are invertebrates? Research them and create pages for them in your notebook. Draw and label some of each on their notebook pages.

## Chapter 11 – A Concrete Tile Can Crawl Both Ways

1. Add to your list of metaphors.
2. Add to your notebook page of tide pool animals.
3. What happened to Pagoo as he celebrated his victory? What advice would you give him for keeping this from happening in the future? Write him a letter to tell him.

## Chapter 12 – Hermit House from an Ancient Jungle

1. Add to your tide pool plant and animals pages.
2. Pagoo is on the “clean up squad.” What does this mean? What is a primary consumer? Look up information about primary consumers. What animals are primary consumers? Why are primary consumers so important?

## Chapter 13 – The Grotto of Eating Trees

1. Add to the metaphors in your notebook.
2. Add to your tide pool plants and animals pages in your notebook.
3. Read a Greek myth about Medusa. Why was the Hydroid named after Medusa? Give your own opinion or write a short story or poem about how the Hydroid was named after Medusa. Draw a picture of Medusa and a picture of the Hydroid.

## Chapter 14 – Among the Crabs, a Shy Masked Lady

1. Add to your metaphor pages in your notebook.
2. What is a simile? How does a simile differ from a metaphor? Write down the simile you read in this chapter.
3. Add to your tide pool plants and animals pages.
4. Go to a restaurant and eat a stuffed crab! Or try making your own with this recipe.

1/2 lb crab meat

1 celery rib, chopped

½ medium onion, finely chopped

½ cup mayonnaise

½ cup breadcrumbs

1 egg, beaten

1 green onion, finely chopped

Salt and pepper to taste

Mix all ingredients and put into crab shells. (Or just use ramekins if you like.)

Dot each with butter.

Bake at 350 until hot, bubbly, and golden brown.

Serve with seafood sauce if desired. (Or kids may prefer ketchup.)

#### Chapter 15 – Pagoo Takes a Shell – Keeps, Too.

1. Add to your metaphors notebook pages.
2. Add to your tide pool animals pages.
3. Old Pal suggested rules for choosing a shell. Create a brochure, card, or letter including your rules for choosing a new house.

#### Chapter 16 – Death Trap!

1. What is erosion? When did you notice erosion happening in this chapter? Research erosion and write a short report on it or give a short oral presentation. Do you see erosion happening in your area? Describe it.
2. Add to your tide pool plants and animals notebook pages. (plant suggestion: algae) (animal suggestions: snail, copepod, limpet)
3. Similes and metaphors have been used throughout this book. How are similes and metaphors different? How are they the same? Come up with your own similes and metaphors. Use them to write a funny short story.

#### Chapter 17 – A Fright, a Frolic, and a Farewell

1. Look up information on the water cycle. Make a poster (or illustrate it on a piece of paper if you don't have posterboard) showing the water cycle.
2. What happened when Pagoo encountered fresh water mixed with salt water? (He sank to the bottom.) Do an experiment to see for yourself how it happened! Fill a glass bowl (so you can easily see what happens) with warm water. Place an egg in the water. What happened? Remove the egg and mix a teaspoon of salt into the water. Place the egg in the water again and see what happens. Remove the egg again and add in another teaspoon of salt. Put the egg back in the water again. What did you notice this time? Research salt water and buoyancy (the way objects float on the water). Write a short description of your experiment. Explain what happened and why.

#### Chapter 18 – Down to the Depths of Deep Hole

1. Add to your tide pool animals pages: sculpin, moray eel, octopus

## Chapter 19 – Can This Be the End of Pagoo?

1. Add to your metaphors pages. What metaphors did you notice in this chapter?
2. Something with octopus!

## Chapter 20 – Endless Rhythm of an Old, Old Sea

1. In this chapter, Pagoo was compared to dessert. Make this yummy dessert to celebrate the end of your book and the completion of this unit study!

### OPTIONAL IDEAS:

1. Have your student write a short book report on Pagoo.
2. Choose a favorite passage or two from the book and use it to practice dictation with your children. Just read the passage out loud stopping frequently for your student to write down what you've read. It's great for building listening skills, and it's good penmanship and spelling practice too!
3. Find some of these great books and read them together too!
4. Create a travel brochure. Pretend you are Pagoo and that you are a travel agent telling people why they should visit the tide pool! Illustrate it, draw a picture or two to go with it, and maybe even do an "interview" of some of the tide pool creatures to include in it!
5. Write a poem having to do with Pagoo, the tide pool, or something that happened in the story that you particularly liked.
6. If there's an area near you that has tide pools, go there! Look at the plants and animals that you see there. (But be sure not to disturb them!)
7. Do this word search or this crossword puzzle having to do with tide pools!