



Animal Homes

Writing prompt inspired by Megan McDonald

In children's author Megan McDonald's book, *Is This a House for a Hermit Crab?*, young readers are introduced to Hermit Crab who has outgrown his home. He crawls along the sand "scritch-scratch, scritch-scratch" searching for a new place to live. A tin can is too noisy, a plastic bucket is too big. Nothing feels just right until he takes shelter inside an empty sea snail's shell.

Select an animal that fascinates you and find out about its habitat, life cycle, behavior, social structure — and its home. Is it a cave, hive, nest, burrow, or tree hollow?

Take the point of view of the animal and write a one-page descriptive essay using specific details and rich language to describe your home and why it's perfect for you. Include a drawing if you wish.

Related resource:

- [Ranger Rick's Nature Notebook: Animal Homes \(PDF\)](#)

