

# Hermit Crabs

A wonderful pet if you are 10-14 years old

Hermit crabs are inexpensive to keep and children under ten will enjoy them but most children this age lack the skill and dedication to care for them.

For children willing to learn about the special need of a hermit crab to molt and change shells

The hermit crab is a perfect pet...a great step toward learning to be a care giver and or a career in the biological sciences. A crab that is not properly cared for typically lives less than a year.

Those who are well cared for can make it to ten years of age or even more. The one thing hermit crabs

cannot do without is companionship. This is just as true of children. Why not mark one or two nights a month on your calendar as "Friends Nights". Having your children's friends in your home allows you to influence them before they influence your children.

Unlike reptiles (turtles, lizards etc) hermit crabs tend not to carry salmonella or cause allergies. As long as their container is kept clean they are a remarkably sanitary pet.

Commercial food is available at most pet stores and can be added to with small amounts of the following foods: Mango, apples, applesauce, bananas, grapes, pineapple, strawberries, melon, carrots, spinach, leaf lettuce NOT head or iceberg lettuce, broccoli, grass, leaves from deciduous trees...NOT conifers, unsalted nuts, peanut butter (on occasion), raisins, unsweetened cereals, cooked eggs and meat (on occasion), freeze dried shrimp or plankton (from pet store), fish food flakes.

The obvious lesson of the hermit crab is PROTECTION. The Hermit crabs body is very soft and tender. So are our souls. Fortunately God has promised to protect us. Just as the hermit crab carries his shell everywhere he goes we should carry a Bible Verse. We invite parents to visit [www.bibleparent.com](http://www.bibleparent.com) for the only free Bible memory cards on the internet.

*Psalm 16:1 "Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge."*

