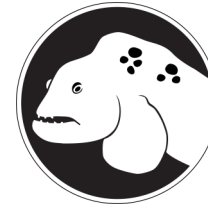


**Want to learn more about  
nudibranchs and other  
Puget Sound marine animals?**

Visit *mast.highline.edu* to learn more  
about our animals, education programs,  
and volunteer opportunities,  
including our  
**Nudibranch Citizen Science Team.**

**The MaST Center**  
Highline College  
28203 Redondo Beach Dr. S.  
Des Moines, WA 98166  
[www.mast.highline.edu](http://www.mast.highline.edu)  
[mast@highline.edu](mailto:mast@highline.edu)

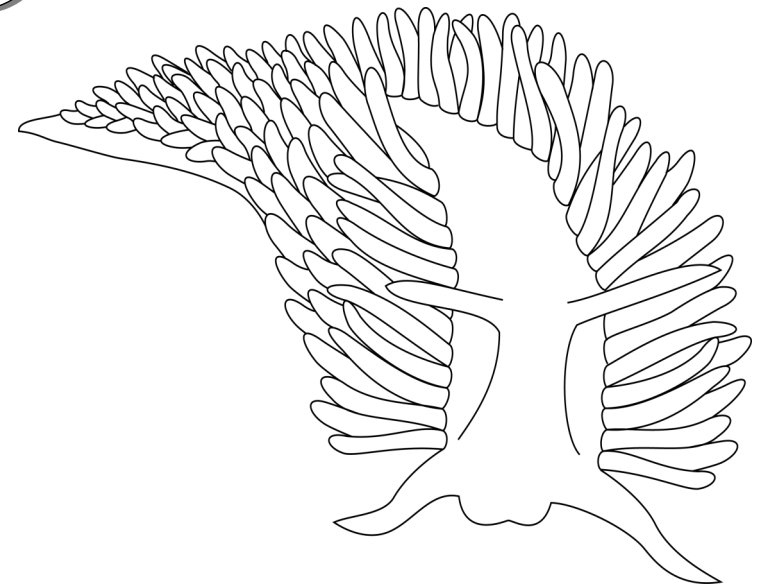
# NUDIBRANCHS



**Marine Science and  
Technology Center**

Highline College

# Coloring Book

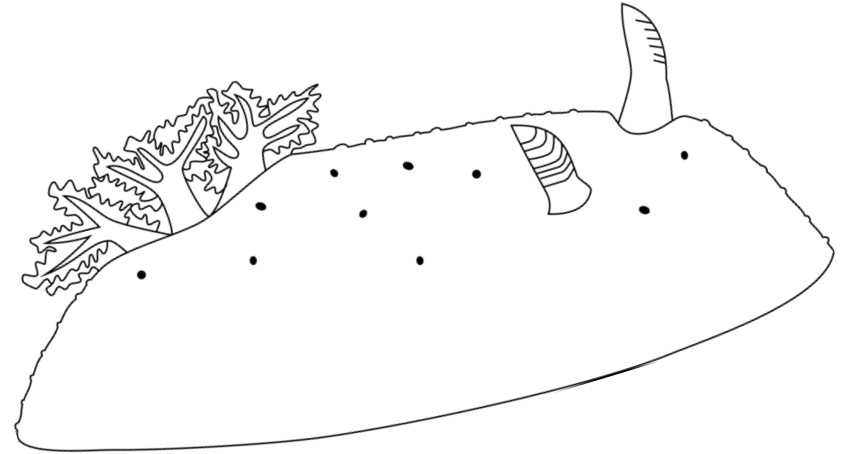


## What is a nudibranch?

Nudibranchs (nudi= naked, branch= gills) are marine sea slugs that have external gills. They come in many shapes, sizes, and colors.

We receive our water, unfiltered, from Puget Sound via a large pump located at the end of our dock. Many of the smaller invertebrate (no back bone) organisms come into our tanks as larva (babies), including our nudibranchs! For this reason, we have a variety of nudibranchs that seasonally appear throughout the year. Their distribution across the tanks depends on conditions such as flow, food supply, and predators.

This coloring book has some of our most common species, see if you can find any in our tanks!

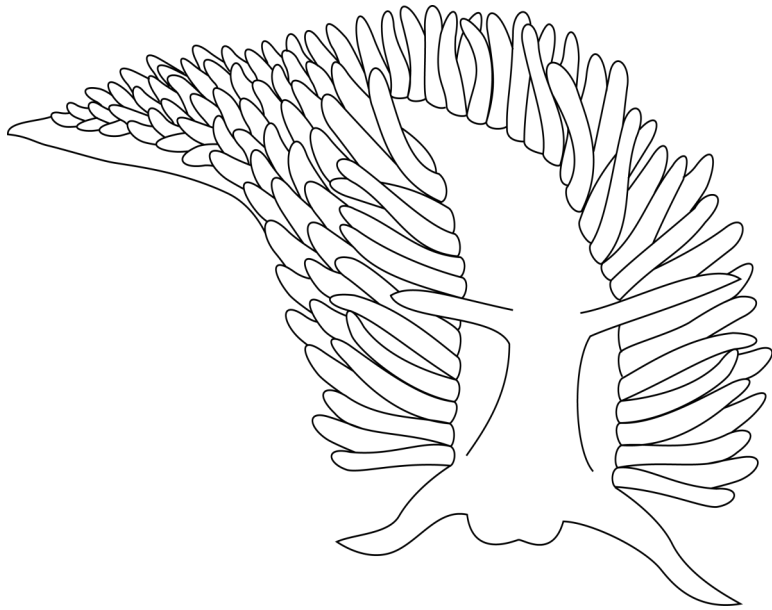


## Monterey Sea Lemon

*Doris montereyensis*

With its yellow color and black spots, Monterey Sea Lemons are easy to identify. Since nudibranchs are almost blind, Sea Lemons have two rhinophores atop their head that help with navigation and hunting. The brachial plume on the posterior exposes the gills, so the animal can breathe.

*Doris montereyensis* eat yellow sponge and are found from Alaska to southern California.



## Shaggy Mouse Nudibranch

*Aeolidia papillosa*

Like their name suggests, Shaggy Mouse Nudibranchs have rows of “shaggy” cerata that aid with digestion. These nudibranchs feed on sea anemones. *Aeolida papillosa* are able to store the anemones’ stinging cells in their cerata, and become stinging themselves. Don’t worry—they can’t sting humans!

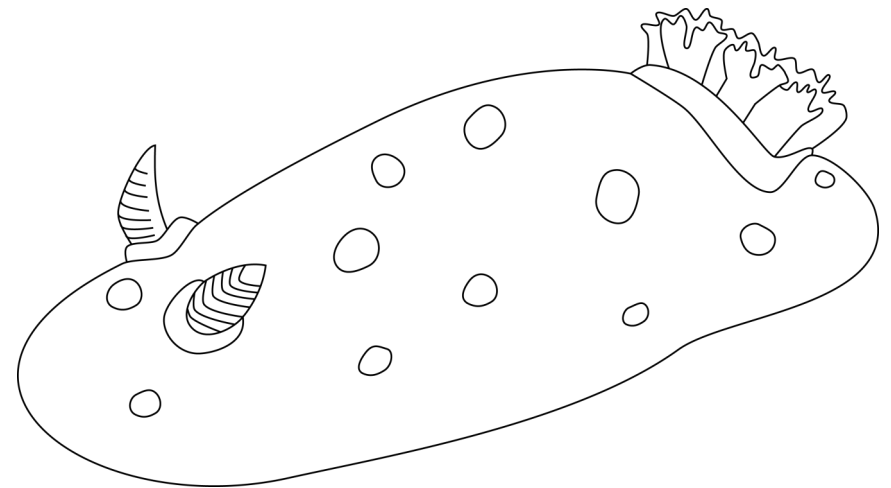
Shaggy Mouse Nudibranchs are found from Alaska, USA, to Chile.

## Leopard Dorid

*Dialula sandiegensis*

Leopard Dorids range from cream-colored to pale brown and have various brown spots, often with darker rings around them. For this reason, many people think their color is similar to that of leopards. Like Sea Lemons, Leopard Dorids have two rhinophores (sensory organs) and a brachial plume (breathing organs).

*Dialula sandiegensis* feed on sponges and are found from Alaska to Mexico to Japan.

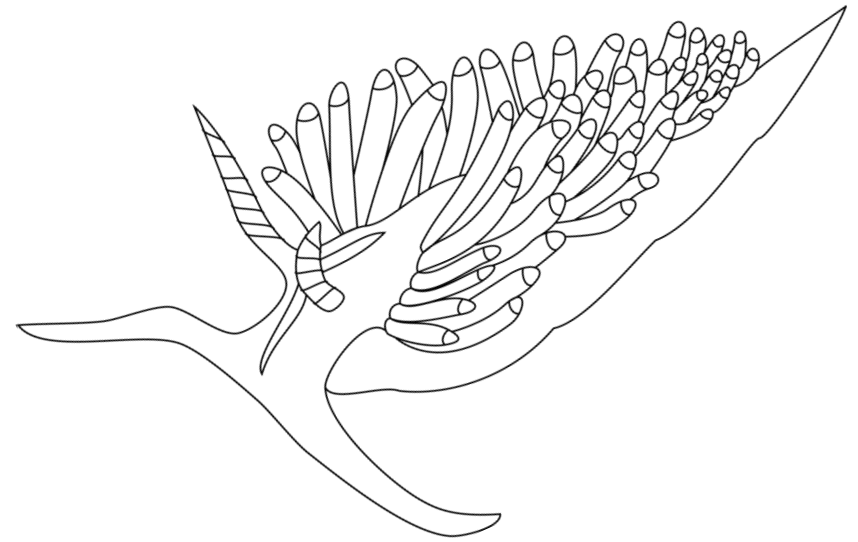
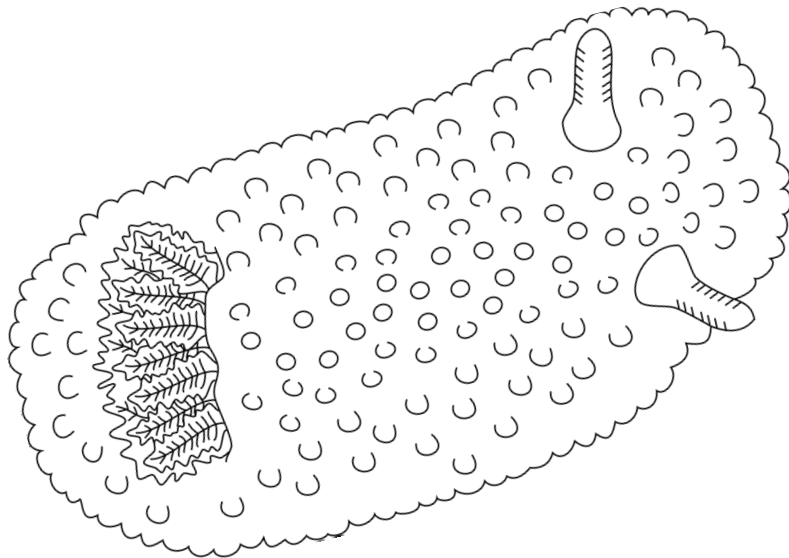


## Barnacle Eating Nudibranch

*Onchidoris bilamellata*

This nudibranch is pale white with blotches of darker brown on its back. The back is also covered with raised bumps, called papillae. Like other dorids, Barnacle Eating Nudibranchs have two rhinophores on the head and gill plumes that extend from its posterior.

*Onchidoris bilamellata* live in waters off Alaska to Mexico. What do you think they eat?



## Opalescent Nudibranch

*Hermisenda crassicornis*

A stripe of brilliant orange and blue runs down this nudibranch's back, while the colors of the "shaggy" cerata vary from orange to brown to stripes. The cerata tips are bright white or orange. Opalescent Nudibranchs feed on hydroids (animals related to sea anemones) and other nudibranchs.

*Hermisenda crassicornis* are found from Alaska to Mexico to Japan.