

## Moreton Bay Bugs

On SCOPE's Weird Animals episode, Frank dissected a Moreton Bay Bug. Here's how you can try it at home!



### What are Moreton Bay Bugs?

Moreton Bay Bugs aren't bugs at all, but a type of lobster! They're found along the north east and north coasts of Australia. They live on the sea bed and are active at night, then stay buried under mud or sand during the day.

#### What you need:

- Moreton Bay Bug
- Chopping Board
- Knife
- Tough pair of tough scissors

#### What to do:

1. First check out the basic build of the Moreton Bay Bug
2. Identify the Bug's tough carapace, which covers its cephalothorax, and its abdomen, which has six individual segments.
3. Identify the eyes, which are on stalks on the side of the head, and the antennules, or feelers, at the front.
4. Flip the Bug over to examine its underside. Identify the five pairs of legs used for walking and the swimmerets used for swimming.



5. With the help of an adult, cut the carapace open,

6. After you've taken off the top of the carapace, you can start identifying the organs underneath.

7. It CAN be tricky to pinpoint what's what, but you should see the gills at the sides of the head, a tubular shaped heart

and a large digestive gland. Food from this organ passes into the intestine, which runs down the tail. The tail is mostly made of muscle (used by the Bug for swimming), and this is the part people eat.

