

Kina / Sea Urchin

MAD HATTERS



KINA ARE THE GRAZERS OF OUR ROCKY SHORES, MOSTLY FEEDING ON **BROWN ALGAE**.

THEY HAVE **tiny** TUBE FEET WHICH HELP THEM HOLD ON TO ROCKS LIKE MINI **SUCTION CUPS**.

THEY 'PICK UP' PIECES OF ALGAE, SHELLS & STONES, TO HELP THEM HIDE - A BEHAVIOR CALLED 'HATTING'.



PROFILE

NAME: Kina

HABITAT: NZ Rocky Shore

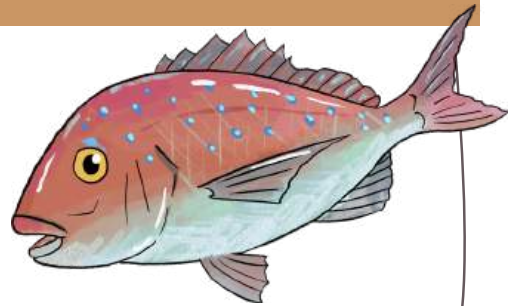
DIET: Kelp (brown seaweed)

STRENGTHS: Camouflage expert

WEAKNESSES: Sometimes overeats



KINA NUMBERS ARE **INCREASING** IN AREAS WHERE KINA HAVE **LESS** PREDATORS, MAINLY DUE TO THE **OVERFISHING** OF LARGE CRAYFISH & SNAPPER.



IN UNBALANCED ECOSYSTEMS, KINA CAN EAT **SO** MUCH SEAWEED, UNTIL THERE IS **NONE** LEFT.



AREAS WITHOUT **KELP** = KINA BARRENS



SIR PETER BLAKE

