Rockpool Sampling Background Information

The initial forming of a rockpool begins when a rock gets caught in the divot of a larger rock. Rushing water creates a blender effect, turning and rotating the smaller rock inside of the divot. Over thousands of years, the small divot turns into a large hole. The raising and lowering of the water level fills the hole with water, creating a rock pool. Rockpools are interesting for research purposes because they act as mini-ecosystems replicated with abiotic and biotic variation across the environment, so there is much to observe in the differences or similarities of the flora and fauna within them.

Learning Objectives

* Demonstrate sampling of rockpools’ physical characteristics and biodiversity
* Identifying organisms using iNaturalist
* Collecting data
* Interpreting data: relationship between diversity and rockpool geography/physical traits.

Modules

* Location and materials
* Methods
* Data collection
* Data visualization