



# Brittany Dellison

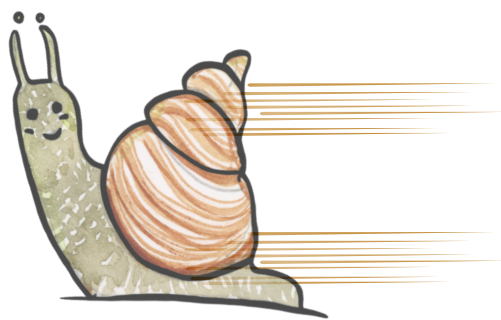
Over thousands and thousands of years, or perhaps since forever, snails have developed a sophisticated way to smell the scent of a sea star as it approaches, and escape. Tide pools are wonderfully diverse and home to many different species, but sea stars are a predator the snails are always cautious of! It might not look very fast to us, but when a snail senses a sea star, it runs away at lightning speed—or, erm, as quickly as a snail possibly can.

Brittany is conducting an experiment using the scientific method to see if snails can escape from sea stars even if the pH of the water becomes more acidic. Her results are sad. Her findings show that if the water is too acidic (a result from climate change), snails' brains get a little fuzzy and they aren't able to escape as well.

While the snails in normal pH seawater glided straight out of their homes when they smelled the sea star, the ones in the other, more acidic water were groggy, fuzzy, and confused. Some moved really slowly, others couldn't figure out where to go. Many never made it out of their homes at all.

Brittany's findings have been important in helping scientists tell everyone how important it is to reduce the amount of carbon we put into our environment. Everything is interconnected within our ecosystem, and if we do a better job at reducing carbon, we can save lots and lots of snails... as well as the rest of the world!

**Can't catch me!**



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