

- O_2 diffuses into water vascular system to circulate around starfish
- tube feet have thin walls for diffusion as well

Circulation / Internal Transport

- water vascular system
- closed circulation system
- sea water enters through madreporite into ring canals & radial canals and circulates around body

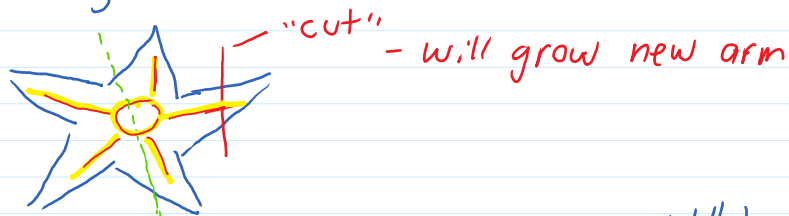
Excretion:

- wastes diffuse into water vascular system & exits by madreporite
- nitrogen wastes, in the form of ammonia (NH_3) exits through "skin gills"
- digestive wastes exit through anus (dorsal/top side of body)

Nervous System

Response: not highly developed nervous system

- : have Ring & Radial nerve cords
- : sensory cells detect light, gravity, chemicals
- : eyespot on end of arm
- : can regenerate



(middle)
"cut" - get a piece of Ring nerve
then both sides grow/
regenerate a starfish

Movement:

- tube feet: ampullae cause pressure changes to extend & contract tube feet (hydraulics)
- : joints / plates in endoskeleton to flex legs

Asexual Reproduction:

+flex legs

Asexual Reproduction:

- none, but can regenerate

Sexual Reproduction:

- external fertilization
- separate sexes (dioecous)
- release egg & sperm into seawater
- bilaterally symmetrical larvae is similar to chordates