Cool Octopus Facts

Why does Ms. Tori LOVE these sea creatures?

Octopuses have blue blood.
While humans (and most other animals) have iron in their blood cells, octopuses have copper in theirs. This not only gives their blood its blue color but also makes it easier for octopuses to survive in low-oxygen environments.

Octopuses can solve puzzles.
Octopuses are some of the smartest animals alive. Scientists have watched octopuses solve problems, escape complicated situations and even use tools in the wild.

Octopuses arms have a mind of their own (sort of).
Octopus brains are spread throughout their bodies, including in their arms! In fact, if an octopus is attacked by predators, they might sacrifice an arm and run away. The arm will keep moving on its own to confuse the predator!

Not all octopuses are the same.
There are as many species of octopus as there are breeds of dog! Some live in shallow, warm waters close to beaches, while others live in the deepest, darkest parts of the ocean floor. The adorable Dumbo Octopus has fins that look like ears. The colorful Wonderpus is known to be extra friendly around divers and loves to have its picture taken. And the Giant Pacific Octopus can weigh over 100 pounds! Which kind will be your favorite?

Octopuses are masters of disguise.
Not only do octopuses have the same color-changing cells that chameleons have, their springy skin can also bunch up to look like plants or smooth out to look like stones on the ocean floor.

Where did Ms. Tori learn these facts?
From these books!

Octopus: The Most Mysterious Creature of the Sea by Katherine Harmon Courage

The Soul of an Octopus by Sy Montgomery

Learning From the Octopus by Rafe Saggin

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