

MOLLUSCS



All molluscs have soft bodies and their name comes from the Latin word *mollis*, which means soft or tender.

Some molluscs have a hard outer shell to protect their soft bodies. They do not have backbones, nor exoskeletons.

THERE ARE 3 TYPES OF MOLLUSCS.

1 BIVALVES



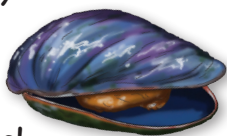
Bivalves are clams, oysters, mussels and scallops. They have two shells (valves) that protect their body.

They eat by filtering food through their gills.

Some swim by opening and closing their shells.

Some bivalves have eyes. Their shells keep them safe and they can live for a long time.

They like to burrow in sand or attach themselves to rocks.



2 GASTROPODS

The name means 'STOMACH FOOT' as they use their foot to crawl.

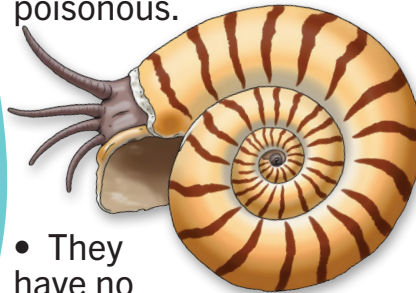
Snails have shells on their backs but slugs not.

They slide on the slime they produce.

Some sea slugs have bright colours to warn predators that they are poisonous.

They have no teeth – but their tongues are covered with teeny teeth for scraping or cutting of food.

They have been around for 500 million years – before dinosaurs.



3 CEPHALOPODS

Their name means 'HEAD FOOT' because their arms or tentacles are attached to their heads.

Octopus is one of the smartest animals and can solve puzzles.

Squids have 8 arms and 2 tentacles.

An Octopus has 8 arms.

Many can change colour to hide from predators.

They use jet propulsions to move.



They squirt ink in self-defence.

They have a sharp beak instead of teeth.

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