

Giant Atlantic Cockle



- Can live in shallow water up to 30 meters (100 feet) deep.
- Have a muscular 'foot' to burrow into sand.
- Filter plankton out of the water to eat.
- Both halves are the same size and shape ('*equivalves*').
- Can be eaten in chowder.
- Also called a Great Heart Cockle.

Florida Fighting Conch



- Found from North Carolina to the Caribbean in sandy shallow water.
- Vegetarians– use a *radula* (rough tongue) to scrape algae off rocks or eat plant material.
- Have eyes on long eye stalks so they can look out without exposing soft body.
- Have a spike at the end of foot for defense.
- Can live up to 10 years.

Lightning Whelk



- Live in sandy shallow waters.
- Eat clams, oysters, and scallops by prying them open using the edge of their shell.
- If they can't open their prey, they grind a hole into its shell and stick their *radula* (rough tongue) inside.
- Only whelk that opens on the left.
- Hermit crabs can live inside the empty shell.
- State shell of Texas.
- Can be up to 40 cm (16 inches) long.

Atlantic Moon Snail



- Found from Nova Scotia to North Carolina, living in water up to 360 meters (1200 feet) deep.
- Drill holes into clams using their *radulas* (rough tongues); digest the clam's soft body with chemicals, then suck the body out.
- Sometimes eat other Moon Snails.
- Also called a Shark's Eye.

Apple Murex



- Live on rocky ledges or shipwrecks, in shallow water.
- Carnivorous— eat clams and oysters by drilling a hole in the shell and inserting a *proboscis* (tubular mouth) to eat the soft body.
- Some murexes give off a fluid used as a purple dye throughout history.

Calico Scallop



- Live in sandy bottom of water up to 400 meters (1300 feet) deep.
- Filter plankton out of the water to eat.
- Can open and close their shell quickly to push water out, to move by jet propulsion.
- Eaten by starfish, which pry their shells open and insert their stomach inside the scallop to eat their body.
- Also commonly eaten by humans.

Banded Tulip Snail



- Live in sand in water less than 30 meters (100 feet) deep.
- Eat other mollusks by making holes using their *radula* (rough tongue), then eating the soft body inside.
- Sometimes eat other Banded Tulips.
- Can retreat inside their shell, using their operculum (bottom of muscular foot) to close the opening.
- Have eyes at the end of two tentacles.

Lettered Olive



- Live in sand in very shallow water; leave trails in sand when crawling below the surface.
- Catch bivalves and small crabs for food, and take them under the sand to digest them.
- Can be scavengers, finding and eating dead plants and animals.
- State shell of South Carolina.
- Named for markings on surface that look like letters.

Turret



- Live in sand, in warm waters.
- Carnivorous– most have a venomous barb to stun prey, usually marine worms.
- Shells have long spires with many whorls.
- Large, rounded aperture (opening) at the bottom of the shell.

Fusinus Snail



- Live on coral reefs or rocks in tropical or semitropical waters.
- Carnivorous– eat bivalves or other snails.
- Shell has medium-sized spires with small bumps following the whorls.
- Right-handed shell with oval aperture (opening); distinctive raised ridges inside.
- Also called spindle shells.

Cowry



- Live in tropical waters on shallow reefs.
- Usually invertebrates, eating algae.
- Nocturnal– hide under rocks or coral during the day.
- Egg-shaped shell with a flattened underside and a long, grooved opening.
- Very glossy shells, used extensively in jewelry and decorations.

Slipper Snail



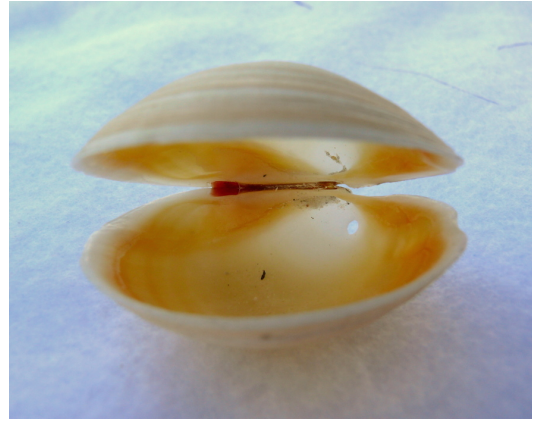
- Live in shallow waters; sometimes found living stacked on top of one another on rocks, horseshoe crabs, or docks.
- Filter plankton out of the water to eat.
- Start life as males, which are much smaller; environmental conditions can cause them to become female and grow larger.
- Shells are arched and rounded, with a white plate or shelf on the inside.

Disc Dosinia



- Live along the Atlantic coast.
- Shells are disc-shaped with flat valves covered in fine concentric growth rings.
- Shells have a prominent 'beak' (called an *umbo*) near the hinge region.
- Many shells have small holes caused by predatory gastropods such as moon snails.

Buttercup Lucine



- Live buried in sediment in shallow water along the Atlantic coast.
- Filter feeder, bringing water inside to extract food and oxygen.
- Two thick circular shells of about the same size.
- Smooth exterior with fine concentric growth lines, and a distinctive yellow interior.

Prickly Cockle



- Live in shallow waters, just below the sand.
- Filter plankton out of the water to eat.
- The shell surface has raised ridges covered in prominent prickly scales.
- Prickles may be used to anchor them in place, or as protection against predators.
- The cockle can 'jump' using its muscular foot, to escape from predators such as starfish.
- Shells are heart-shaped without ears along the hinge line.

Cardita Clam



- Live in the sand under water 3 to 25 feet deep.
- Filter plankton out of the water to eat.
- Eaten by octopi, humans, birds and sea snails such as conches.
- Reproduce by spawning– larva float for a few weeks in the currents before settling down in the sand.
- Shells are thick and oval-shaped with prominent radiating rib.

Kitten's Paw



- Range from North Carolina to the West Indies.
- Live attached to coral or rocks with a glue-like material.
- Shell is small with prominent folds that look like the toes of a kitten.
- Shell's two halves are joined by hinge when alive, but one half usually breaks off after the animal dies.

Quahog



- Common from Canada to Florida.
- Filter feeders; large quahogs can filter up to a gallon of water in an hour.
- Used in cooking, especially New England chowders and clam cakes.
- The name quahog comes from a Native American word for "horse fish." Also known as a hard clam or hard-shell.
- Shells were once used as currency ('wampum').

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