

# ADOPT A COASTLINE

NAME

## STUDENT ACTIVITY

# MARINE MOLLUSCS

Molluscs are snail-like animals, however they do not all have shells. Molluscs include snails, sea slugs, nudibranchs, periwinkles, chitons, limpets, squid and octopus. There are seven groups (called classes) of molluscs. They are separated into their classes by:

1. The structure of the radula (the mouth parts). A radula is usually made of very small “teeth” that are used to scrape food off rocks.
2. The structure of the shell.

Here are some examples of Molluscs.



Cuttlefish



Mussel



Nudibranch



Limpet



Octopus



Clam

### Useful websites:

- Coastwest and the Department of Fisheries, 2011, *Phylum: Mollusca*, <http://beachcombers-kit.fish.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Mollusca.pdf>
- Government of Western Australia, no date, *Western Australian Museum*, [www.museum.wa.gov.au](http://www.museum.wa.gov.au)
- Marine Education Society of Australasia, 2013, *Welcome to MESA*, [www.mesa.edu.au](http://www.mesa.edu.au)
- Ocean Research Group, 2007, *The Wonders of the Seas*, [www.oceanresearch.org/education/wonders/mollusk.html](http://www.oceanresearch.org/education/wonders/mollusk.html)

Find out about the seven classes of Molluscs – complete the table below.

CLASS	EXAMPLES	TYPE OF SHELL	HOW IT EATS	HOW IT MOVES	WHERE IT LIVES	OTHER
<i>Gastropoda</i>						
<i>Bivalvia</i>						
<i>Aplacophora</i>						
<i>Monoplacophora</i>						
<i>Polyplacophora</i>						
<i>Scaphopoda</i>						
<i>Cephalopoda</i>						

