

# Mollusks

## Mollusks:

Are invertebrates with soft bodies and most have hard shells. Snails, octopuses or octopodes, shells, and slugs are a in the mollusk family. Here, we're going to focus on bivalves and gastropods which are the two kinds of shells.

## Habitat:

Most live in fresh or saltwater because they require moisture. The ones that don't and live on land, produce their own slime.

### Bivalves:

Refers to types of mollusks enclosed in a two-part hinged shell, hence- Bi-valve. This includes species like mussels, oysters, scallops, and clams. Most bivalves filter the water and this makes them very vital in their ecosystems. They also make their own shells out of calcium

### Gastropods:

Refers to mollusks with a shell having one opening including snails, conchs, and whelks. Some have evolved and lost their shells because they did not need them like slugs and sea hares.

★ Can you tell the difference? Circle the **bivalves** in **blue** and put a **green** square around the **gastropods**.

