

Pearls in Peril

Pearls in the Classroom

These pearls of wisdom belong to

.....

Stick a picture of a freshwater pearl mussel, salmon,
trout or a river here...

Freshwater pearl mussel questions

Using the internet or the pearls in the classroom fact sheets, research some facts about freshwater pearl mussels and answer the questions below:

Where can freshwater pearl mussels be found?

Which country has over half of the world's breeding populations of freshwater pearl mussels?

What age can these animals live to?

Mussels don't have back bones. What is the name for the group of animals that don't have back bones?

And what is the name for the group of soft-bodied animals that often (but not always) live in shells? Can you name one that doesn't have a shell?

Give 2 reasons why the world's freshwater pearl mussel population is in decline.

Freshwater pearl mussel research

Using what you know about note-taking, find out what you can about the following freshwater pearl mussel topics:

Julius Caesar

Scottish Crown Jewels

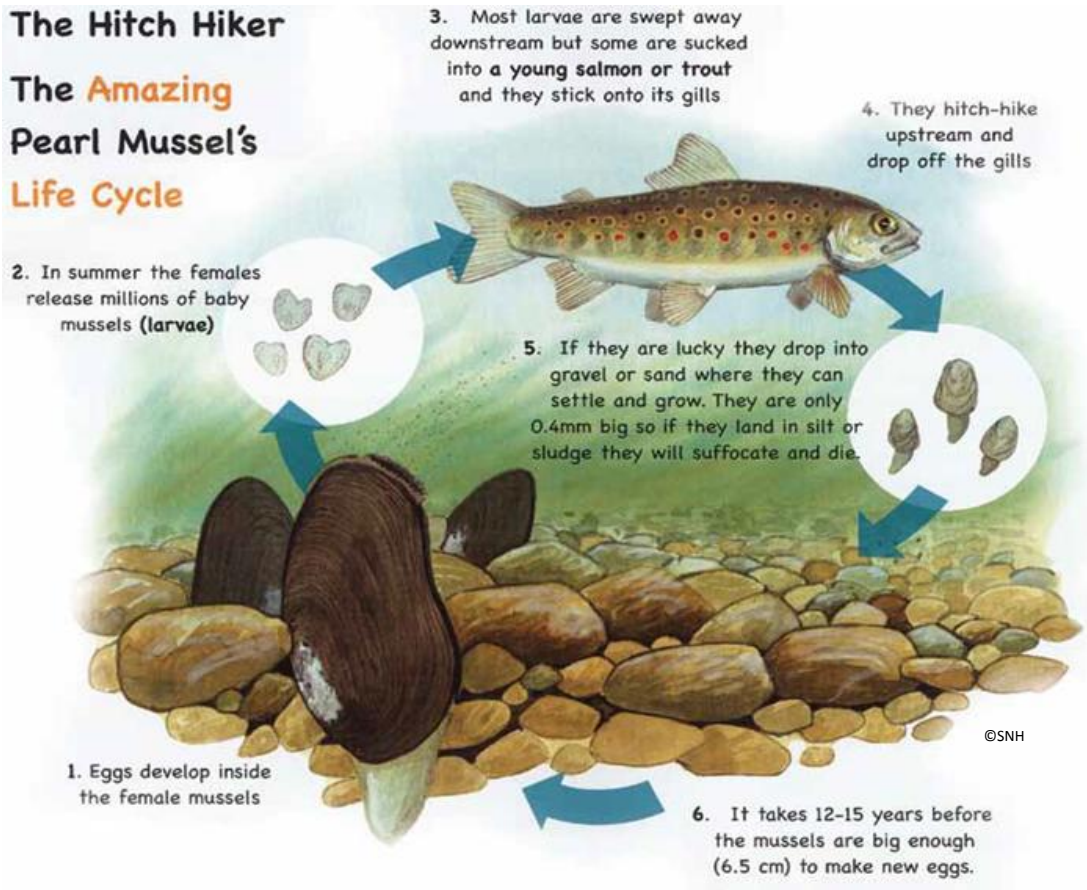
Pearl fishing

Scotland's biggest pearl

Lifecycle of the freshwater pearl mussel

The Hitch Hiker

The Amazing Pearl Mussel's Life Cycle



What other name are the mussel larvae known by?

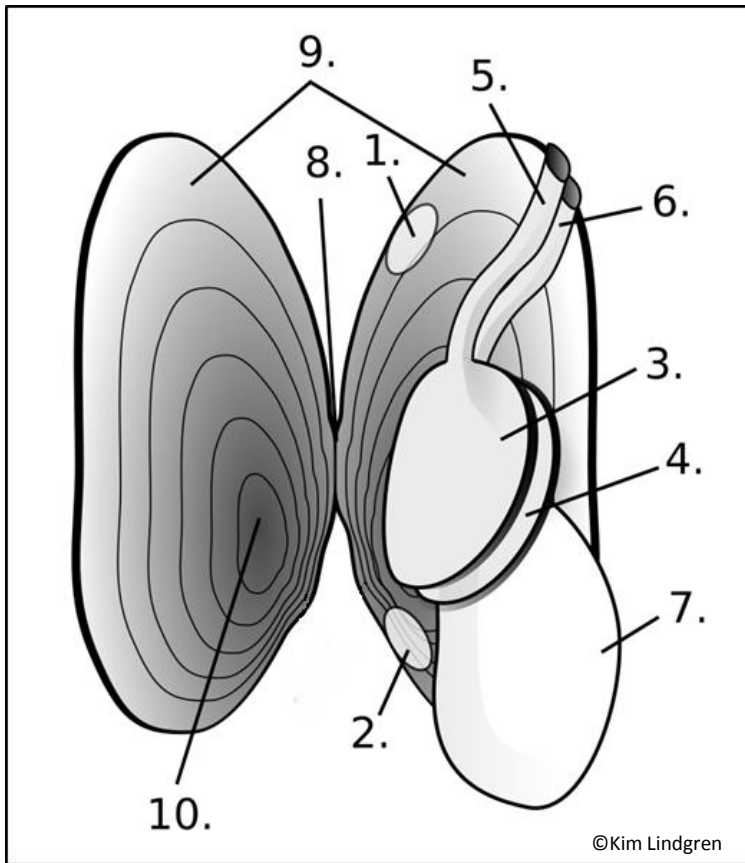
How do the larvae stick to the gills of the fish?

What are the chances of a larvae meeting a suitable fish?

How long do the mussel larvae stay on the host fish?

What are the mussels known as at the stage when they drop off the gills?

Name the parts of the freshwater pearl mussel



1.

6.

2.

7.

3.

8.

4.

9.

5.

10.

The river ecosystem

Do you know what an ecosystem is?

Here is a list of things you might find in a river ecosystem.
For each one, say whether it is living or non-living.

For the living things, find out

- what do they eat?
- what eats them?
- what environmental conditions do they like to live in?

For the non-living things, find out who likes to live there and why?

1. Juvenile salmon and trout



2. Insect larvae



3. Sand and gravel



4. Juvenile freshwater pearl mussels



5. Adult salmon and trout



6. Cool clean water



7. Overhanging trees



8. Adult freshwater pearl mussels



9. Rocks and boulders



10. Steady water flow and depth



Random river facts

Many towns and cities have rivers and fish as part of their coats of arms.

Can you name one?



What are the longest and shortest rivers in Scotland?

How long are they? And can you mark where they are on the map?



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Salmon are famed for their jumping abilities as they return to their home rivers to spawn. In Scotland, how high is the highest jump a salmon has been known to make?

Fresh Water Pearl Mussel Word Search

A	M	P	E	M	Y	S	T	R	E	A	M	E	J
T	T	U	V	G	E	S	G	R	A	V	E	L	W
R	T	L	D	B	S	E	A	T	R	O	U	T	O
A	R	P	A	M	R	A	W	F	T	A	H	N	E
S	I	B	U	N	M	S	S	V	A	Z	R	T	T
L	V	G	B	U	T	T	O	N	E	L	J	E	A
E	E	G	T	G	G	I	S	S	R	G	S	T	R
W	R	R	N	F	O	O	C	S	A	R	G	E	B
E	P	E	A	R	L	M	U	S	S	E	L	S	E
J	E	T	W	E	L	O	E	H	A	J	E	B	T
N	T	L	A	N	G	L	E	S	E	L	U	U	R
W	R	I	V	G	I	L	L	S	D	D	M	P	E
O	I	F	E	P	L	U	A	S	E	R	P	O	V
R	E	R	F	R	E	S	H	W	A	T	E	R	N
C	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	E	D	E	D	P	I

Atlantic salmon

Button

Eggs

Filter

Freshwater

Gills

Gravel

Invertebrate

Mollusc

Pearl Mussels

Protected

River

Sea Trout

Shell

Stream

Fresh Water Pearl Mussel Word Search - Difficult

P	R	O	T	E	C	T	E	D	B	F	V	E	M	S	L	L	I	G
E	I	J	A	G	I	R	H	J	R	E	D	S	M	U	S	S	E	L
M	V	H	T	F	I	L	O	L	E	M	U	S	P	E	R	S	T	O
U	E	G	H	F	O	O	D	W	E	B	I	N	G	T	S	I	R	C
G	R	D	A	I	Z	I	F	S	N	G	S	T	A	T	I	B	A	H
F	A	B	G	L	M	C	T	H	I	J	B	O	E	T	H	N	E	I
G	V	E	Y	T	F	O	O	G	G	W	E	S	B	E	S	A	M	D
W	S	E	T	E	W	E	F	R	E	S	H	W	A	T	E	R	T	I
A	P	O	I	R	A	B	O	L	G	P	O	C	E	S	A	L	R	A
H	E	I	N	I	N	T	O	E	G	H	J	U	U	L	T	U	O	D
A	C	S	U	L	L	O	M	A	S	A	L	L	E	H	S	E	H	S
B	I	U	M	W	P	R	O	F	R	E	C	A	P	A	E	K	L	L
G	E	P	M	V	G	R	L	A	R	C	E	R	R	S	A	N	D	R
R	S	A	O	E	I	I	A	L	A	O	M	V	O	T	T	Y	F	A
A	C	E	C	O	S	Y	T	E	M	W	N	A	F	R	R	A	R	E
V	G	A	O	R	A	E	P	D	P	B	O	E	E	I	O	O	E	P
E	A	R	R	I	L	S	S	H	M	S	T	B	U	R	U	T	G	O
L	R	L	A	V	M	A	N	T	L	E	T	H	A	B	T	G	O	V
R	N	S	N	R	O	G	R	I	L	S	U	X	Y	E	D	S	O	N
T	L	O	Y	I	N	V	E	R	T	E	B	R	A	T	E	R	N	I

Button

Community

Crown Jewels

Ecosystem

Eggs

Filter

Foodweb

Freshwater

Gills

Glochidia

Gravel

Habitat

Invertebrate

Larvae

Mantle

Mollusc

Mussel

Pearl

Protected

Rare

River

Salmon

Sand

Sea Trout

Shell

Species

Stream

ACTIVITY Anagrams

Rearrange the letters into words about freshwater pearl mussels. The pictures are clues to what the words are.



VRIER



LHLSE



EPEISSC



ACTIVTY Anagrams contd...



CANNALTMOSLATI



ASTUTROE

FWSHETEARR



TBIHATA