Molluscs

Single Phylum (Mollusca) Over 90,000 spp in 8 Classes

Tube-within-a-tube body plan

True coelom (Mesodermal origin)

Several advanced systems



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Mollusc Defining traits

Complete Respiratory system with gills or lungs

Circulatory system with heart

Mantle that secretes shell

Ciliary tracts

Muscular foot for locomotion

Rasping organ in mouth (Radula)

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Mollusc Taxa

- Bivalve Form and Function
 Gills highly modified for filter feeding
- Mucous ensnares food which is passed along grooves to mouth
- Ciliary tracts in stomach for sorting
- Circulatory, Excretory and Nervous systems present



 Dioecious; mostly external fertilization with several larval stages







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