

Pearl Mussel Project – Education Resource Pack

The Pearl Mussel Project have put together some online resources for primary school children to learn about the Freshwater Pearl Mussel.

It's really simple to use:

1. Read through the story map (trying to remember as much information as possible)
2. Complete the activities (available to download from our website)

If you can't remember some of the answers for the activity sheets you can always go back to the story map again!

We are also running a colouring competition. We are asking children to draw a picture with the title 'Biodiversity'. It is open to all primary school children and the closing date is May 15th 2020. Please email a photo of the drawing to mc@pmproject.ie or send your drawings to The Pearl Mussel Project, Bell Height, Kenmare, Co. Kerry.

Good luck!



At the Pearl Mussel Project we look at the different plants that are growing in an area to see how good that habitat is for the environment and for Pearl Mussels.



Areas that have lots of plants and animals, or high biodiversity, are better for the environment, Pearl Mussels, and humans!



Why don't you have a look in your garden and see what plants you can find? Circle the pictures of any of the plants that you find and add up the scores.



Some of the plants might not have their flowers yet so you will need to look carefully at the leaves



Before you go out to look at the plants in your garden ask for permission – if you can't go outside today maybe you can do it another day instead, or you could even record what you can see from the window!

This survey was carried out by _____

on the _____ in _____

Circle the plants that you find and add up the points!

2 points each

Daisy



Buttercup



White Clover



4 points each

Dandelion



Ribwort Plantain (Soldiers)



Cleavers (Sticky backs)



Common Sorrel



6 points each

Self-heal



Cuckoo Flower



Yarrow



Silverweed

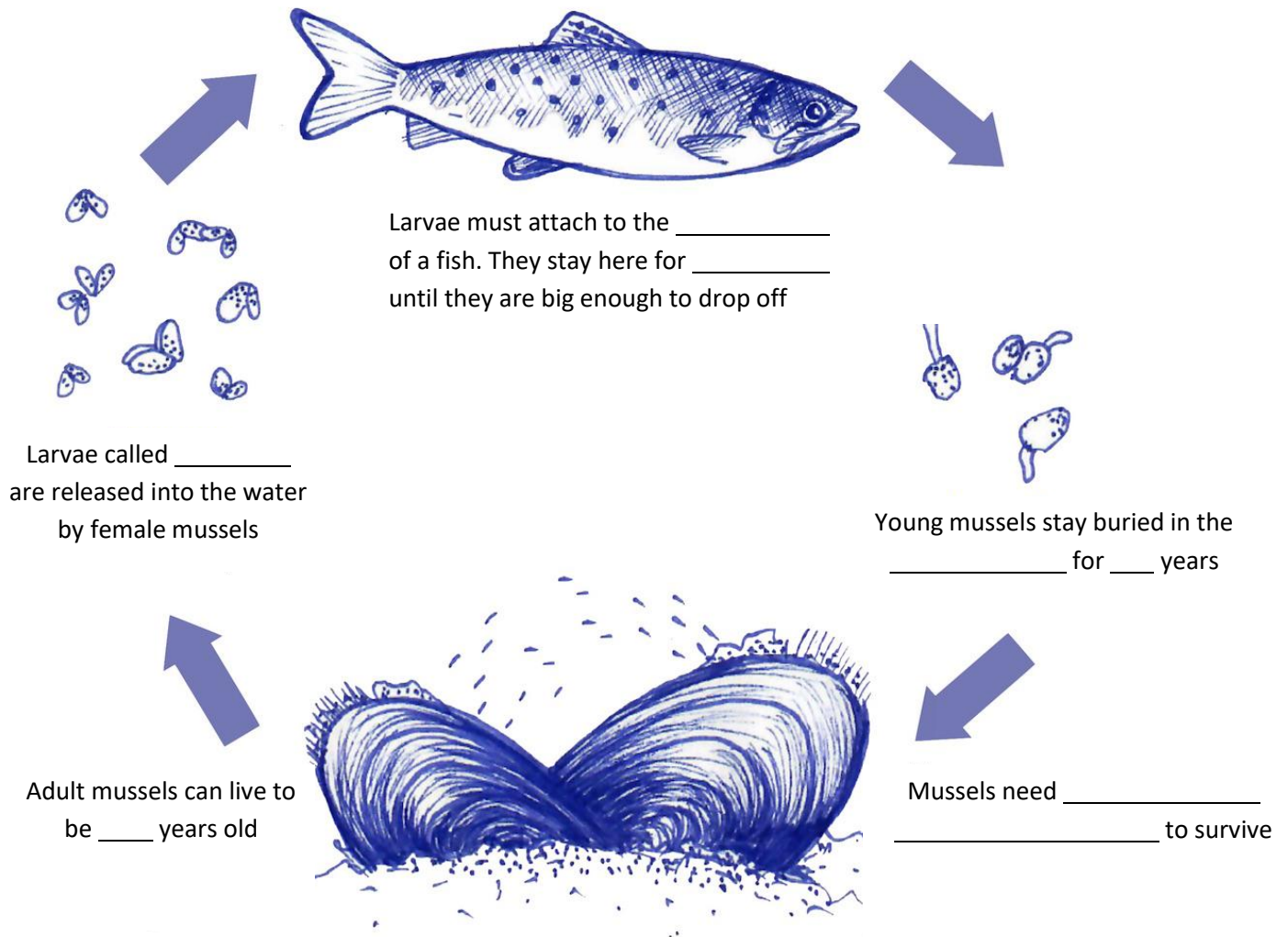


Did you find other plants? Can you name them?

Total Score: _____

What do you think you could do to get a higher score?

Can you fill in the blanks?



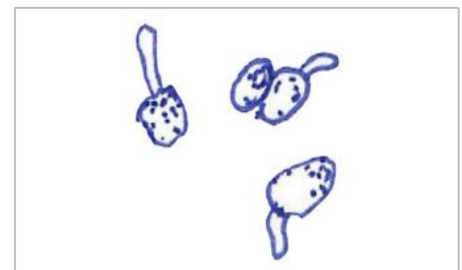
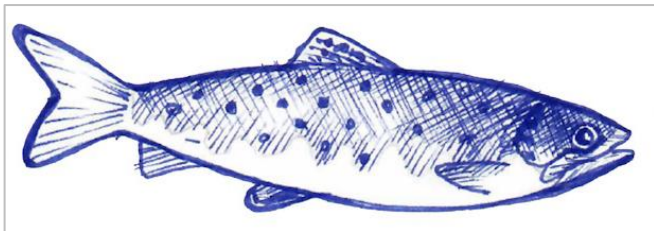
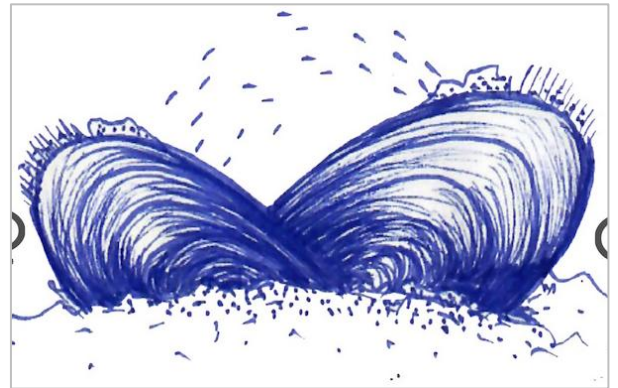
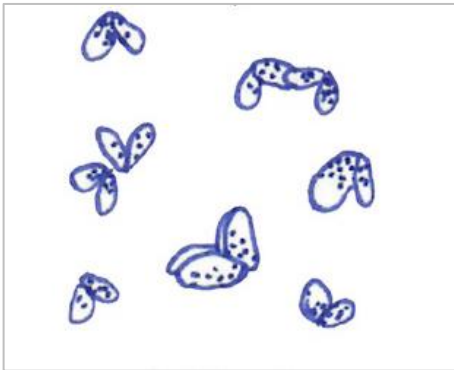
Bonus Questions:

How many larvae can one female mussel release?

What type of fish do the Pearl Mussel larvae attach to?



Can you draw arrows to put these parts of the
Freshwater Pearl Mussel life cycle in the right
order?



Pearl Mussel Project Quiz

1. What do you call an animal without a backbone?
2. Where do Pearl Mussels live?
3. How long do Pearl Mussels live for?
4. The Pearl Mussel lives inside two shells – what do we call animals like this?
5. How much water can one Pearl Mussel filter in a day?
6. What other animal does the Pearl Mussel rely on to survive?
7. What do you call Pearl Mussel larvae?
8. How long do young mussels stay buried in the river bed for?
9. What do Pearl Mussels do that is helpful for humans?
10. What kind of habitat do Pearl Mussels need to survive?



Pearl Mussel Project Word Search

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

ENVIRONMENT
 GLOCHIDIA
 FISH
 FILTER
 ECOSYSTEM
 MUSSEL
 STREAM
 OXYGEN
 RIVER
 BIVALVE
 PROTECTED
 SHELL
 POLLUTION
 SEDIMENT
 HABITAT
 CLEAN



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

BIVALVE
CLEAN
FILTER
FISH
HABITAT
INVERTEBRATE
MUSSEL
OXYGEN
PROTECTED
RIVER
SHELL
WATER



Colour in the Pearl Mussels and add in other plants and animals you might find in a river to finish the picture

