

probe

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December 1978.

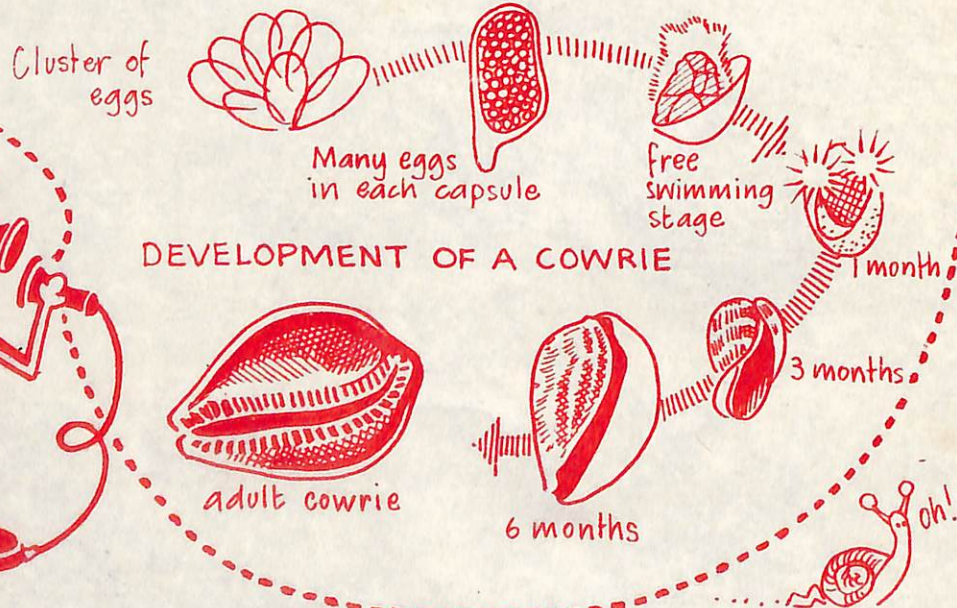
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No. 10.



Hello, Probe Information Service..... Could you please tell me how sea shells begin?



Certainly! I'll tell you about the Cowrie shell, which is in the snail group. After mating the female lays groups of small capsules containing a hundred or so eggs. In about three weeks they hatch into tiny animals that swim about for several days and when their shells grow too heavy the young snails settle to the bottom of the sea. In about 6 months or more the snail has grown to adult size.....

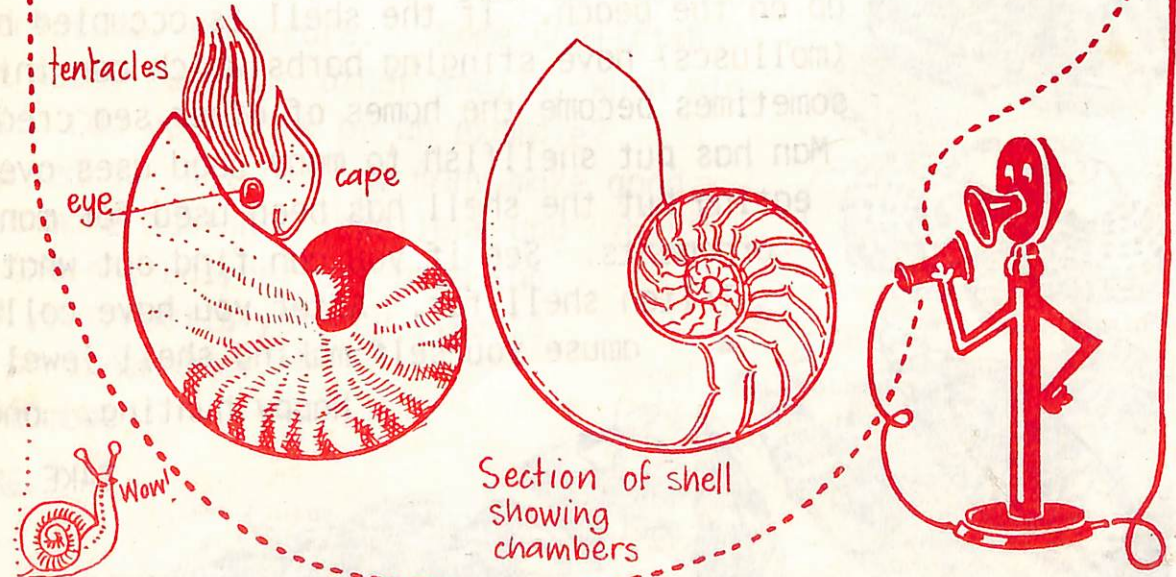


DEVELOPMENT OF A COWRIE

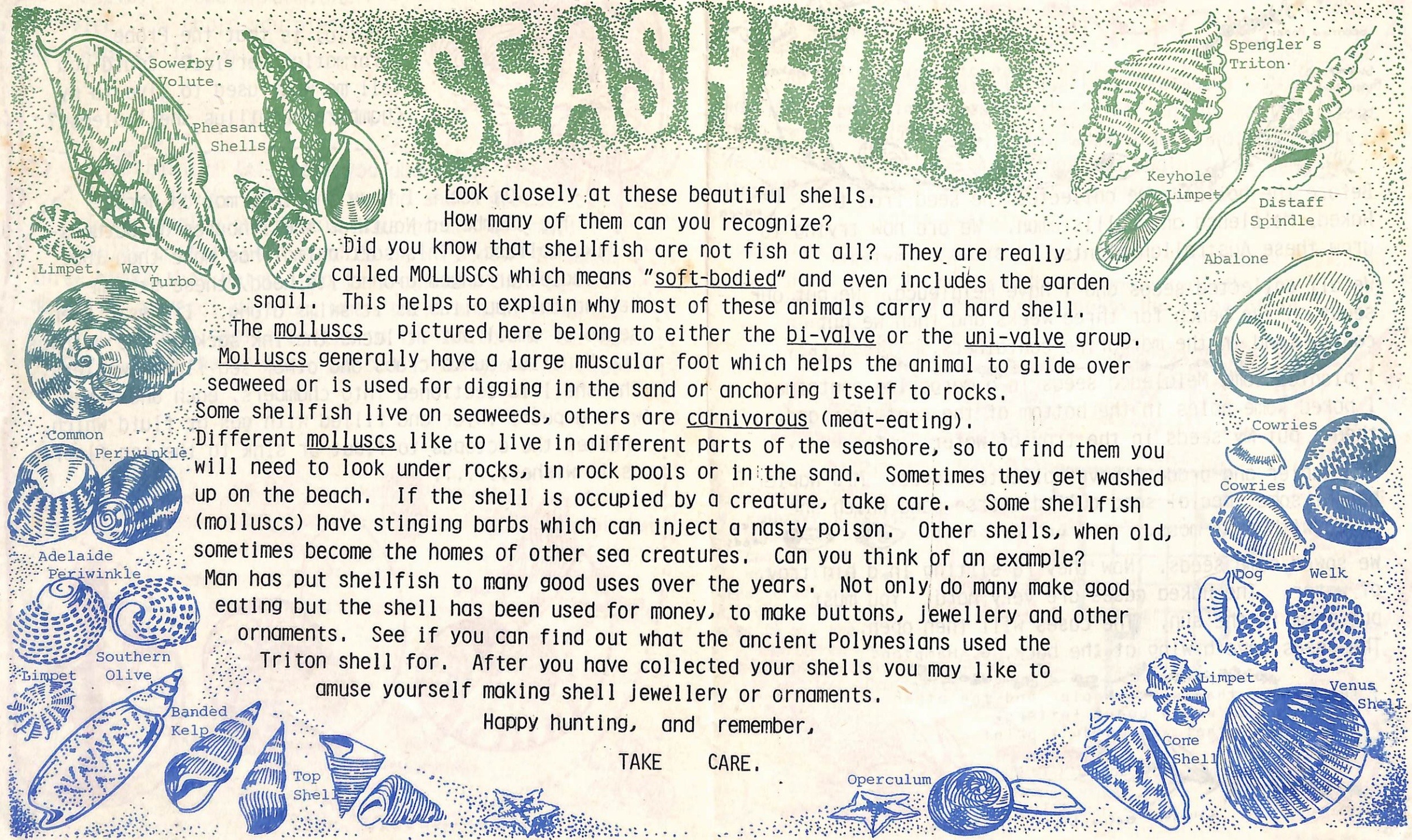
Hello, is that the Probe Information Service? Could you tell me what used to live in my Chambered Nautilus shell please?



Oh yes - I have the information here.- The Chambered Nautilus shell houses an octopus-like mollusc. This soft animal has more than 100 tentacles arranged around its head, these stream behind the Nautilus as it swims along. It has a keen sense of smell but it lacks the ink sack of the octopus. The Nautilus hunts crabs and other sea floor dwellers. The shell is sectioned into chambers, each one lined with a pearl layer and filled with gas or fluid which enables the octopus to float or sink to the sea floor as it wishes.....



SEASHHELLS



Look closely at these beautiful shells.
How many of them can you recognize?

Did you know that shellfish are not fish at all? They are really called **MOLLUSCS** which means "soft-bodied" and even includes the garden snail. This helps to explain why most of these animals carry a hard shell. The molluscs pictured here belong to either the bi-valve or the uni-valve group. Molluscs generally have a large muscular foot which helps the animal to glide over seaweed or is used for digging in the sand or anchoring itself to rocks. Some shellfish live on seaweeds, others are carnivorous (meat-eating). Different molluscs like to live in different parts of the seashore, so to find them you will need to look under rocks, in rock pools or in the sand. Sometimes they get washed up on the beach. If the shell is occupied by a creature, take care. Some shellfish (molluscs) have stinging barbs which can inject a nasty poison. Other shells, when old, sometimes become the homes of other sea creatures. Can you think of an example?

Man has put shellfish to many good uses over the years. Not only do many make good eating but the shell has been used for money, to make buttons, jewellery and other ornaments. See if you can find out what the ancient Polynesians used the Triton shell for. After you have collected your shells you may like to amuse yourself making shell jewellery or ornaments.

Happy hunting, and remember,

TAKE CARE.



The grade 1 children of Dunkeld Silky Hakea Consolidated School wish to share with you what they have been doing with the seeds from Hakea, Callistemon and Melaleuca plants.

Before the holidays we collected the seed from the Hakea, Melaleuca and Callistemon. We are now trying to grow these Australian plants. Clive Armytage.

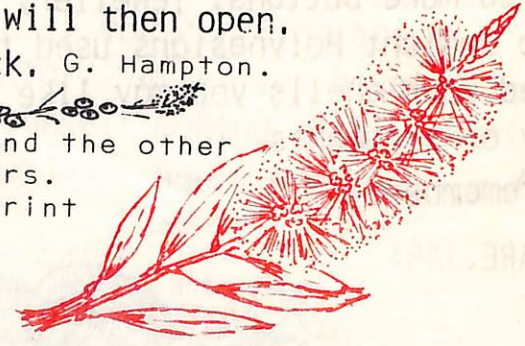
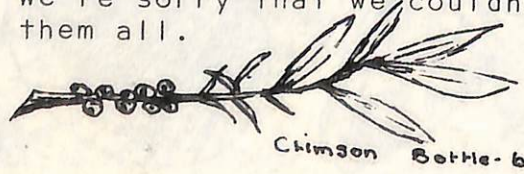
We all collected seeds and I have Melaleuca. We put our seeds on the bench for three weeks and then we put coarse sand in the margarine containers. Alison Lacy.

I planted some Melaleuca seeds in a margarine container. I poked some holes in the bottom of the container and then I put my seeds in the tray of water. Tim Brody.

Mrs Napier and grade 1 have collected seeds. Mrs Napier bought some special sand called coarse sand which she mixed with peat moss. Darren Campbell.

We sowed some seeds. Now they're sitting in a big tray of water. The Hakea cases are very hard. You must put them in the sun. The cases will then open. The seeds have a wing at the back. G. Hampton.

The editor thanks Mrs Napier and the other children who wrote beautiful letters. We're sorry that we couldn't print them all.



PIGEON POST



Dear Probe,

During the holidays my family went to the Warrumbungles in New South Wales. We went by car and slept in a tent. We camped in the Warrumbungle's National Park. We saw lots of galahs, kangaroos and koalas. We went to the Western Plains Zoo and the Observatory which are in Dubbo. Anita Swannie.

PUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLEPUZZLE

If you fit in the names of these animals correctly, you will find that 9 down also makes the name of an animal.



5 ACROSS



7 ACROSS



4 ACROSS

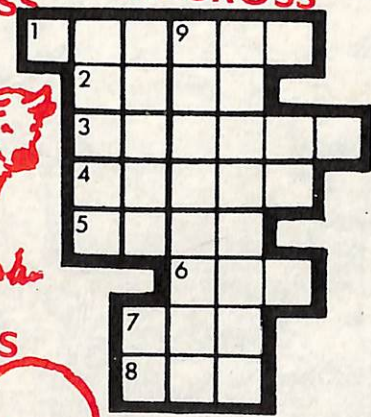


1 ACROSS

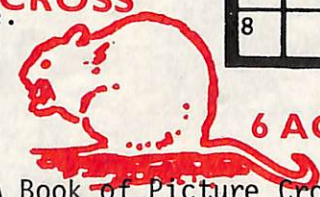
Probe thanks W. Prohasky, R. Cassidy, S. Jowett, A. Dunstan, J. Leonard and P. Whitwell for their great drawings. A big thank you also goes to all the children who wrote letters to Probe. L. Orme (editor)



8 ACROSS



2 ACROSS



6 ACROSS

A Book of Picture Crosswords. Ronald Ridout. Purnell & Sons Ltd.



3 ACROSS

When the days are hot, please don't forget the needs of our

Feathered Friends.

BIRD TABLES FOR YOUR GARDEN



DRINKING
VESSEL
or FEEDER
(2 coconut halves)



OPEN TRAY TABLE
Do not place
too near tree
that cats can
climb



MASONRY TABLE
and BATH

