

Grade 3 – Assignment for week of (4/6 to 4/9)

Structures of Life: Meet the Land Snail, Part 2

Last week we began to study living things in the **Animal Kingdom**. We will continue this week to learn more about the land snail.

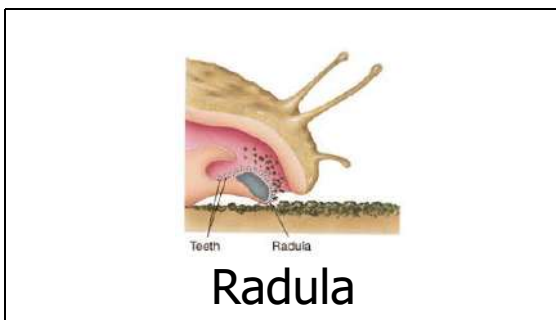
Science Vocabulary:

Land Snail:	Slow-moving land animal with a spiral shell
Gastropods:	Class of Mollusks; move with a muscular ventral foot
Eyespots:	Small spots on ends of large tentacles; sense light
Radula:	Tongue-like organ with thousands of tiny teeth
Respiratory Pore:	Small hole in the side of the snail for breathing
Estivation:	Snails go into their shells and become dormant

Task #1: Making Word Cards

Using the science vocabulary, choose (3) words that you would like to make word cards for. The word card will have the word on the front and a picture of the word. You can use google images if you are not sure what the vocabulary word looks like. On the back of the word card you will write a definition or what the word means. You can use any paper and fold it into four parts. Study your word cards and have someone test you.

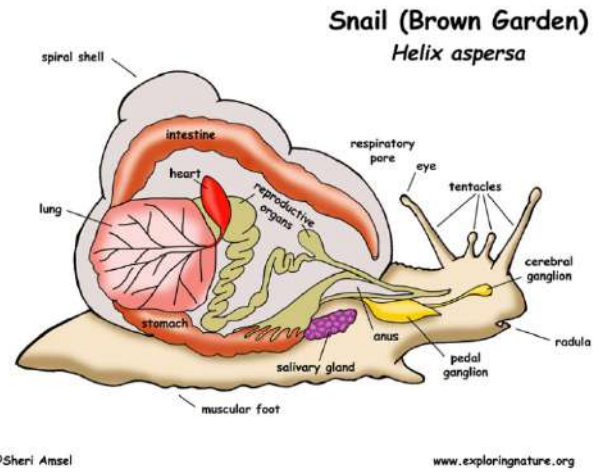
Example:



Tongue-like organ with
thousands of tiny teeth
in a land snail

Task #2: Making Observations

Use the picture of the land snail on the left and the diagram on the right to answer the following questions.



1. Do land snails have eyes or eyespots? _____
2. If yes, how many? _____
3. Do land snails have legs? _____
4. Do land snails have tentacles? _____
5. If yes, how many? _____
6. Do land snails have a mouth? _____
7. Where is it? _____

Task #3: Reading to Learn about Snails

Read the (2) page story entitled, "A Snail's Journey." When you are done reading, share with a parent or guardian or think to yourself what you learned about snails in the story.

When you are finished sharing or thinking about the story, answer the following questions.

1. What kind of home was the snail looking for?
2. What (2) things helped the snail travel or move across the ground?
3. What did the snail eat as it was traveling along its journey?
4. How did the snail protect itself from the raccoon?
5. How did the snail know when it was finally home?



A SNAIL'S JOURNEY

The snail wanted to find a new home. It needed a home where there were cool, damp places to hide. The new home also had to have leaves and plants for the snail to eat.

The snail set out on a cool spring morning, before the sun was up. The grass was damp with dew. The snail moved by using the muscular “foot” on its belly. As it crawled along the ground, the snail left a trail of slimy mucus. The mucus helped the snail slide over the ground.



As the snail crawled, the sun slowly rose in the sky. Suddenly a bird swooped down. Quickly the snail pulled its body inside its hard shell. It sensed the bird's beak banging against the top of its shell, but the bird could not break the shell. The bird soon flew away. When all was safe, the snail poked its head and foot out of its shell and continued its journey.

Soon the sun grew warmer, and the grass began to dry and get hot. The snail could not stay out in such conditions. If it did, its body would dry up, and it would die.

The snail crawled toward a shady spot under a tree. It found some mushrooms growing where the ground was cool

and damp. The snail settled under a mushroom, pulled its body into its shell, and rested.

When the snail poked its head out of its shell again, it was dark and the air was cool. The snail crawled along until it found some leaves. Then it began to rub its tongue across the leaves. Thousands of sharp teeth on its tongue ripped up bits of the leaves for the snail to swallow.

The snail traveled for many days looking for its new home. It usually traveled early in the morning or during the night. Cloudy days were good, too, because the sun didn't make the snail too hot. But there were other dangers besides the sun to worry about.

One night, a raccoon tried to eat the snail. It hit the snail with its paw. The snail quickly slipped inside its shell. The



raccoon picked up the shell and shook it, trying to get the animal to come out. But a strong muscle held the snail in its shell. After a while, the raccoon gave up.

Finally the snail crawled into a garden. There were tasty plants to eat. There were a lot of damp places to hide, such as the roots of a shady tree, a patch of mushrooms, and a jumble of rocks. Salamanders were hiding under the rocks, and grass frogs hopped around the garden. Earthworms tunneled through the soil, making it a good place for plants to grow. Beetles crawled through the dirt. The snail settled down under a leaf and began to eat. It was home at last!