

# Gastropods

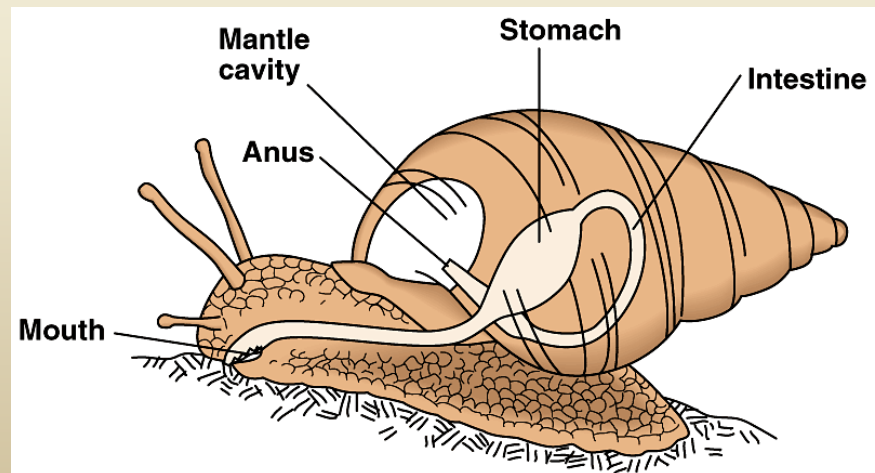
# Gastropoda

- Largest and most diverse class of mollusks
  - Most have shells
    - Snails
    - Abalones
    - Conchs
  - Others are shell less
    - Slugs
    - nudibranchs



# Gastropods

- The only mollusks to undergo **Torsion**
  - During development the *Visceral Mass* twists 180 degrees
  - Mantle cavity, gills, and anus are now at the front
- They can withdraw their head into the mantle cavity when threatened



# Gastropods

- They use the *foot* to move
  - Wavelike muscular contractions
  - Can only be seen by looking at the bottom of the foot during movement
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGYbG7HchD8&feature=related>

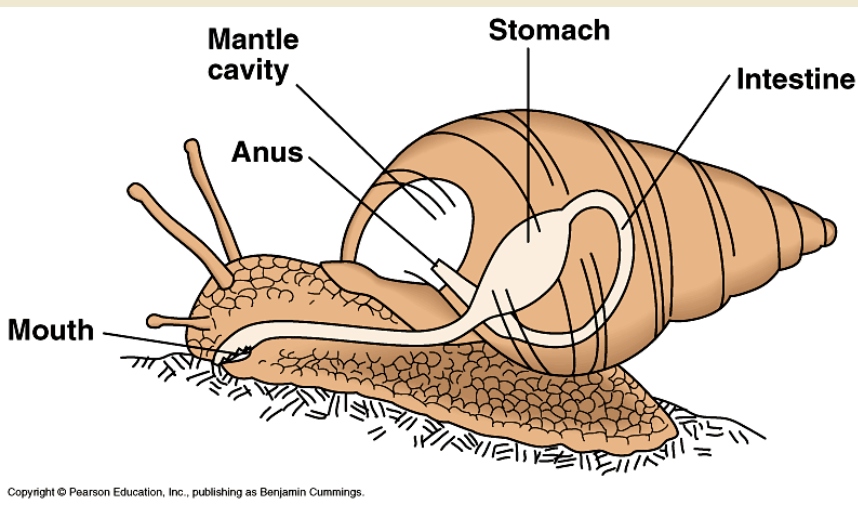
# Gastropods

- Have an open circulatory system
  - Circulatory fluid **hemolymph** does not remain entirely within the vessels
  - They form blood cavities called *hemocoel*
  - The gills and lungs are used to pump the hemolymph back to the heart from the hemocoel



# Snails

- Land, fresh water, and the ocean
- Eyes at the end of the tentacles to locate food
- Can retreat into their shell for protection
  - From predators
  - Or the elements



# Snails

- Water dwelling snails use gills to respire
- Land dwellers use modified lungs
  - The membrane lining the mantle cavity must be kept moist in order to allow diffusion of the gasses
  - Snails are more active in moist conditions
  - They can survive dry spells by coiling back into the shell, and secreting a mucous plug

# Slugs

- Look like snails without shells
- Breathe in the same manner
- Must avoid drying out



# Nudibranchs

- Marine gastropods that lack shells
  - “naked gill”
  - The entire body surface acts as a gill for gas exchange
  - Many extensions to the body help with gas exchange



# Cone

- Use powerful venom to capture prey
  - Worms
  - Mollusks
  - Small fish
- The venom is injected through the harpoon like radula
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OK3NiK9Pu5Q>