

### Class: Polyplacophora

(Greek many plate bearing) 800 species chitons

#### Characteristics

- 1) shell  $\rightarrow$  7 to 8 overlapping/articulating plates
- thickened mantle protrudes laterally with plates embedded → "girdle"
- 3) mantle cavity houses up to 80 bipectinate gills
- 4) water flow anterior to posterior
- 5) herbivores—scraping algal films from substrate with **radula/odontophore**
- 6) few carnivorous











#### Class: Gastropoda

(Greek: stomach foot) 70,000 species/15,000 fossil snails, slugs

### Characteristics

- 1) shell  $\rightarrow$  continuous univalve/compact coiled/absence
- 2) torsion: 180° counterclockwise twist of the body occurring during veliger larval stage
- 3) reduction of mantle cavity
- 4) reduction of numbers of gills
- 5) restricted water flow
- 6) herbivores—scraping algal films from substrate with radula/odontophore
- 7) carnivorous







nudibranch egg ribbons

**Cyphoma gibbosum** – flamingo tonguesCaribbean corals





















#### Class: Bivalvia

(Latin: two valved) 7000 species

## Characteristics

- 1) shell  $\rightarrow$  two values
- 2) laterally compressed
- 3) enlarged of mantle cavity
- 4) large gills
- 5) filter feeders
- 6) spade-like foot
- 7) no radula

















































# Evolution 1. fossil evidence: molluscs evolved in the sea; most remained marine 2. some bivalves & gastropods moved to brackish & fresh water 3. only gastropods successfully invaded land; limited to moist/sheltered habitats with calcium in soil 4. cephalopods evolved to become relatively intelligent 5. coelom limited to a chamber around the heart; ? molluscs arose separately from annelids & their coeloms not homologous