

## Seashell Challenge Scavenger Hunt

Welcome to the beach! Today you are hunting seashells. To complete the hunt, you will need a regular camera or a smart phone camera and the photo guide on pages 3 and 4. You can print the photos or use a phone and go the website <http://www.bluegreenconn.org> to see the photos online. You can complete the checklist of seashells on page 2 when you get home.

Here are the rules for the hunt.

1. Visit the beach with your family any day during the week of the summit.
2. As you walk the beach, look for the seashells in the photo guide and keep one of each type. Your seashells do not have to be perfect as long as you can identify them.
3. Notice a ruler next to the specimens so you have an idea of the actual size.
4. Shells A - I are worth 1 point each. Shells J - Q are worth 3 points each.
5. 5 point Bonus for finding seashells not in the photo guide.
6. At the end of your hunt, put your shells in a group and take one photo of all the shells. If you have bonus seashells, put these separate in upper right hand corner of photo.
7. Check off each shell you found on the checklist and add up the points.
8. Upload your photo and checklist to <https://tinyurl.com/shellidchallenge>

### Have you ever thought about where seashells come from?

Shells were once a part of living animals commonly known as Mollusks. Mollusks have a soft body that holds the heart, liver, digestive system, and other important organs. Most mollusks make their own shell for protection. They are invertebrates which means that they don't have a backbone. You will find two types of mollusks on the beach today.

univalves - animals with one shell such as a conch, whelk, olive and auger

bivalves - animals with two shells such as clams, oysters, and scallops

As you find seashells, think about whether they are univalves or bivalves. Mollusk shells can be very colorful. Some have shades of pink, orange, yellow, or other colors. The shells often have dotted or striped patterns, too. There are more than 100,000 species, or types, of mollusks.

Why are shells important? Seashells are an important part of coastal ecosystems. They provide materials for birds' nests, an attachment surface for algae, sea grass, sponges and a host of other microorganisms. Hermit crabs use them as temporary shelters. Seashells also aid in beach stabilization and create important calcium carbonate sediment as they break down. Understanding where shells come from adds more meaning to their vital role in the ecosystem.

For a seashell experiment you and your parents can do together at home, click on the activity.

[Sea Smart Activity - Climate Change and Ocean Acidification](#)

## Seashell Checklist

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent / Guardian's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_  
 Permanent Home Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Place a check next to each shell you found and add up the total points.

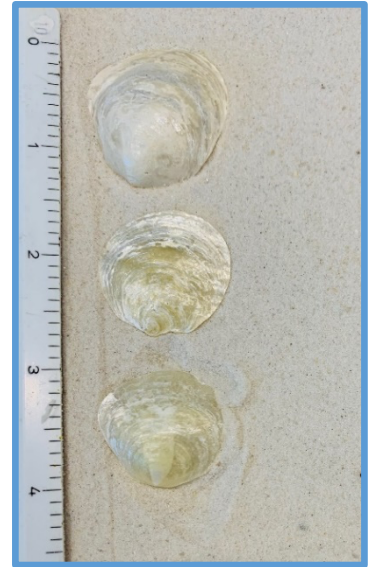
Name of Seashell	Check	Points
<b>1 point each</b>		
A - Scallop		
B - Slipper		
C - Jingle		
D - Turban		
E - Olive		
F - Clam		
G - Conch		
H - Cockle		
I - Sunray Venus		
<b>3 points each</b>		
J - Turkey Wing		
K - Long Spined Star		
L - Spiny Jewel Box		
M - Whelk		
N - Murex		
O - Shark's Eye		
P - Auger		
Q - Tulip		
<b>5 points each</b>		
Number of Bonus Seashells		
	<b>Total Points</b>	



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B - Slipper



C - Jingle



D - Turban



E - Olive



F - Clam



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