

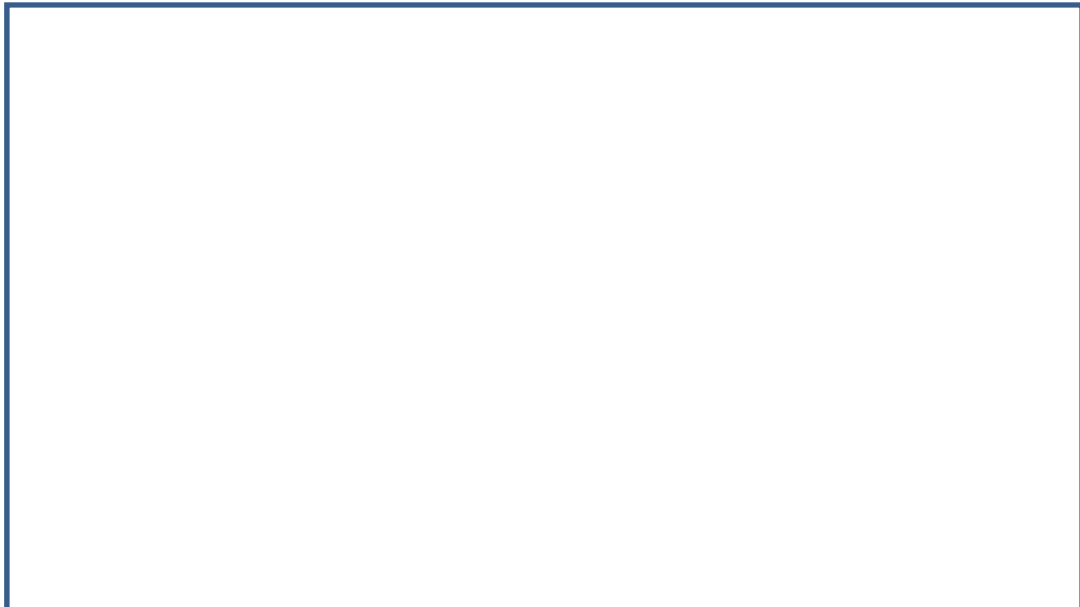
Pearls in Peril

Pearls in the Classroom

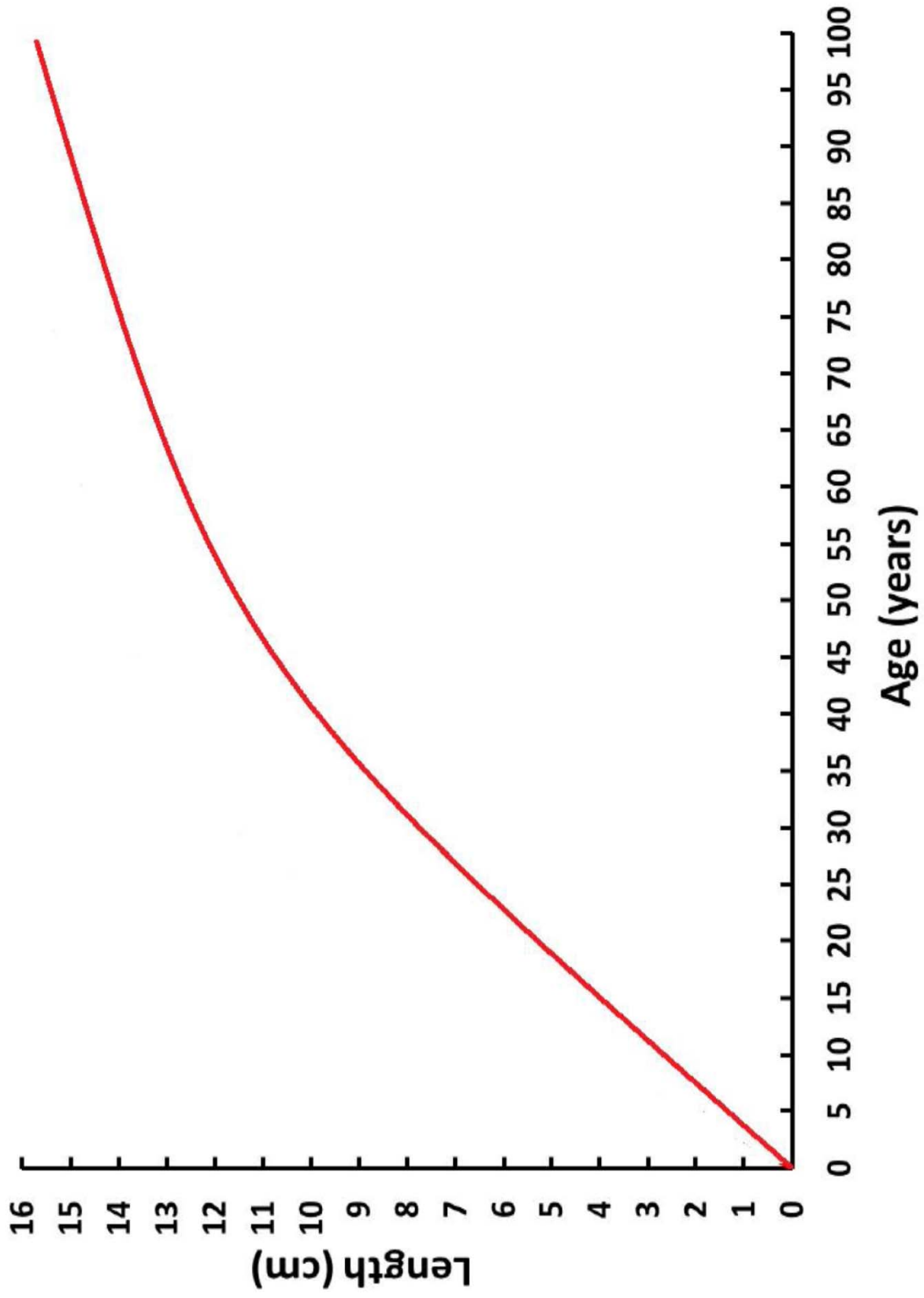
These pearls of wisdom belong to

.....

Draw a picture of a freshwater pearl mussel, salmon, trout or a river here...



Freshwater pearl mussel growth chart



Freshwater pearl mussel questions

Where can freshwater pearl mussels be found?

Where is the last place in England you can find a breeding population?

What age can these animals live to?

Mussels don't have back bones. What is the name for the group of animals that don't have back bones?

And what is the name for the group of soft-bodied animals that often (but not always) live in shells? Can you name one that doesn't have a shell?

Lifecycle questions

How many larvae can one pearl mussel release?

How do the larvae stick to the gills of the fish?

What are the chances of a larvae meeting a suitable fish?

How long do the mussel larvae stay on the host fish?

The river ecosystem

Do you know what an ecosystem is?

Here is a list of things you might find in a river ecosystem.
For each one, say whether it is living or non-living.

For the living things, find out

- what do they eat?
- what eats them?
- what environmental conditions do they like to live in?

For the non-living things, find out who likes to live there and why?

1. Juvenile salmon and trout



2. Insect larvae



3. Sand and gravel



4. Juvenile freshwater pearl mussels



5. Adult salmon and trout



6. Cool clean water



7. Overhanging trees



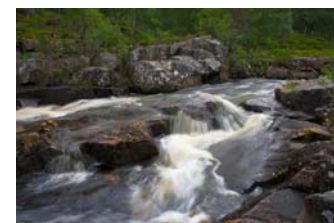
8. Adult freshwater pearl mussels



9. Rocks and boulders



10. Steady water flow and depth



Freshwater pearl mussel research

Using what you know about note-taking, find out what you can about the following freshwater pearl mussel topics:

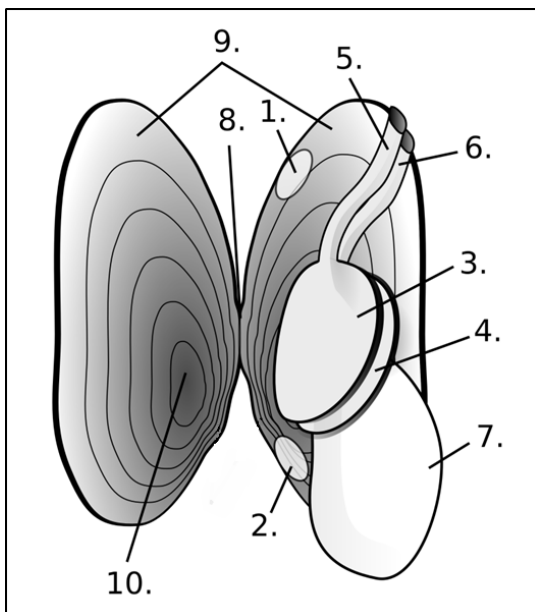
Julius Caesar

Scottish Crown Jewels

Pearl fishing

Scotland's biggest pearl

Name the parts of the freshwater pearl mussel



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.