# Clam Anatomy Exercise

## Objective:

Students will observe the inside and outside of a clam. Record on the sheet provided.

Each student will receive the following materials:
fresh clam (in shell), shucked clam, calipers, tray, dissecting tools, clam diagrams

## Outside of the clam shell (use live clam):

1) The soft body of the animal is protected by how many shells (valves)? _____

2) Identify the **anterior and posterior ends**.

3) Write a **description of the shell's appearance**: color, shape, growth rings, distinguishing marks

_____

_____

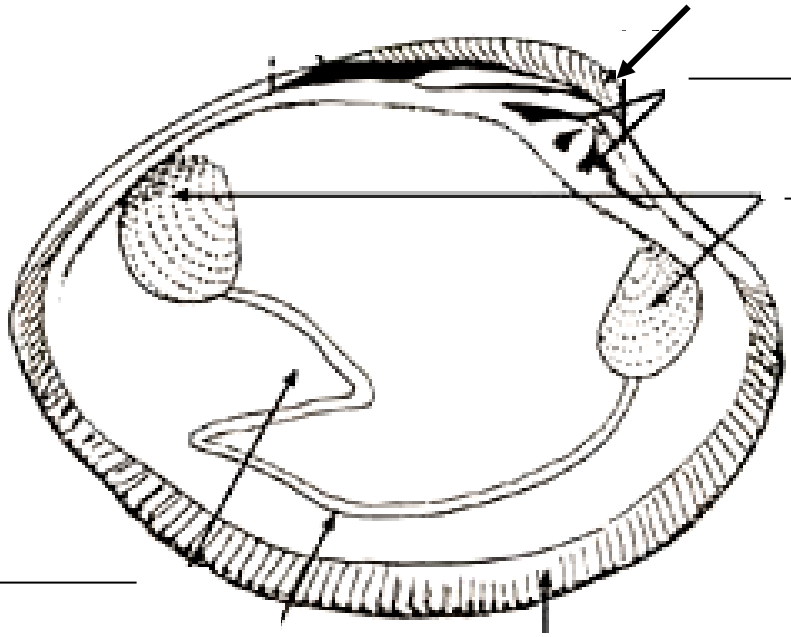
4) **Measure** the clam (1 inch = 25 mm) with calipers:

**Length** _____mm or inches **Height** _____mm or inches **Width** _____mm or inches

## Inside of the clam shell (use shucked clam):

1) Identify **anterior and posterior ends**, and the **dorsal and ventral sides** of clam shell below.

2) Locate the following on the clam shell below and record on blank lines provided: **anterior and posterior muscle scars, umbo, hinge ligament and teeth, mantle attachment, and small teeth**



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## Inside of the clam (use shucked clam):

1) The thin, whitish flesh lining is called the _____.

2) Carefully lift the mantle up to expose the internal organs of the clam.

**Locate the following parts of your clam according to the diagram. Place name on the blank line provided.**

**Write below next to the body part if it is used for (P) protection, (E) eating, (B) breathing, or (M) moving.**

**Umbo** _____ **Mantle** _____

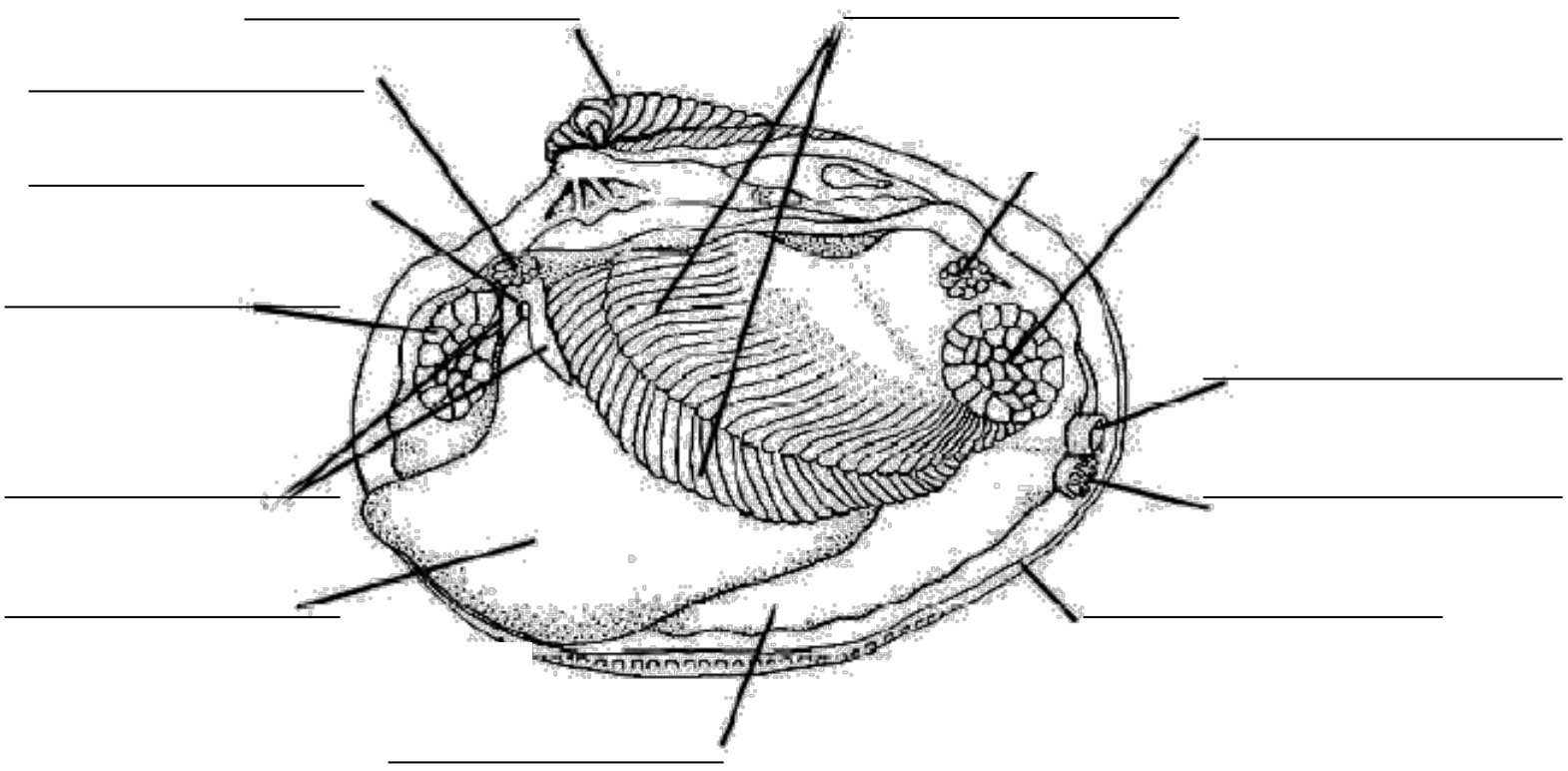
**Anterior adductor muscle** _____ **Posterior adductor muscle** _____

**Foot** _____ **Incurrent siphon** _____

**Gills** _____ **Labial Palps** _____

**Mouth** _____ **Excurrent siphon** _____

3) Lift the gills to find the stomach and intestines. Can you find the crystalline style or heart?



## Discussion:

A. What did you learn from working on a fresh clam?

B. Was it easy or difficult to locate all the body parts? Why?

C. What are some differences between the anatomy of a hard clam and oyster? Explain.

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