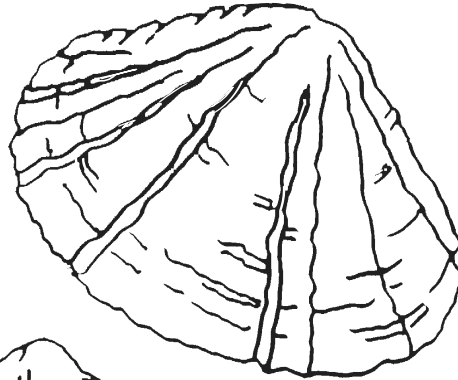
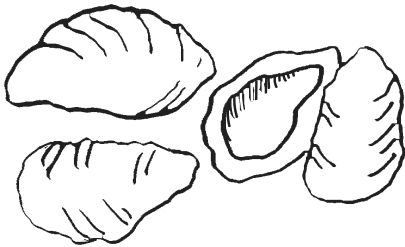
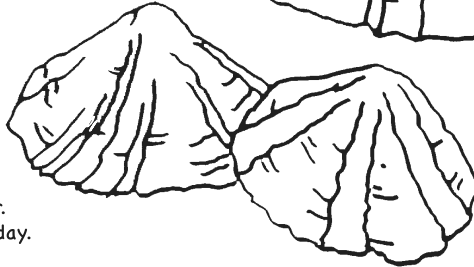


# PISMO CLAMS



## PISMO CLAMS:

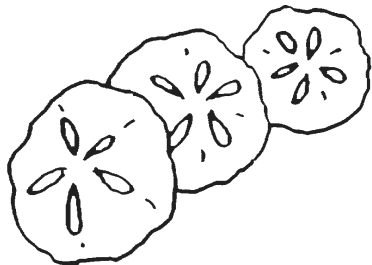
- are bivalve mollusks, like mussels, oysters, and scallops.
- grow 3/4 inch per year, reaching 4.5 inches between 7-8 years of age.
- eat by filtering plankton and tiny bits of plants out of the water.
- filter about 16 gallons of water a day.



# MUSSELS

## MUSSELS:

- have shells that are blue-black, rough, irregularly round or oblong, thin, and longer than wide.
- have a white shiny layer inside their shells called "mother of pearl."
- are food for many marine creatures, like crabs, shore birds, sea snails, sea stars, and sea otters.



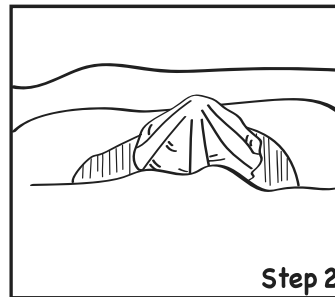
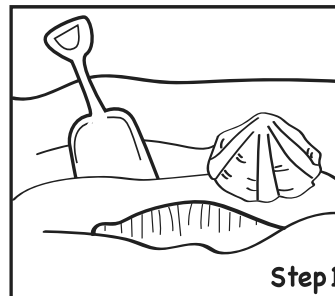
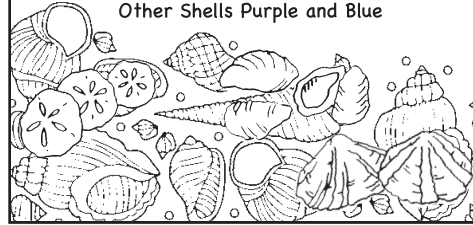
# SAND DOLLARS

## SAND DOLLARS:

- are aged by scientists by counting growth rings on their exoskeleton plates.
- are cousins to other echinoderms, like sea cucumbers, sea stars, and sea urchins.
- when dark in color, are living creatures that need to be put back in the ocean, where they live.

## Know the Difference

Color the Clams Pink • Color the Mussels Gray  
Color the Sand Dollars Yellow • Color the Other Shells Purple and Blue



Pismo Clams are world famous and one of Pismo Beach's most treasured resources.

Pismo clams are symmetrical (both shells match) with stripes coming down from the hinge (where the shells attach), and can range in color from cream, pink, orange, and purple with brown stripes. Help them survive by reburying them.

### Step 1:

Dig a hole two inches deep in the same location you found the clam.

### Step 2:

Place the clam in the hole with its hinge bump UP facing the ocean.

### Step 3:

Cover the clam gently with sand.



Scan for more info.

**DIG DEEPER:**  
[www.bit.ly/43a54W5](http://www.bit.ly/43a54W5)

