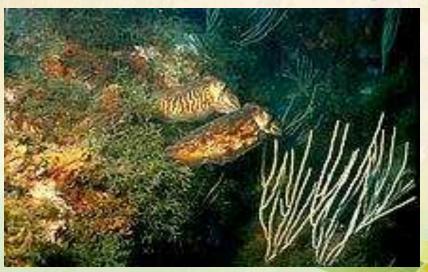


 A cephalopod is any member of the molluscan class Cephalopoda

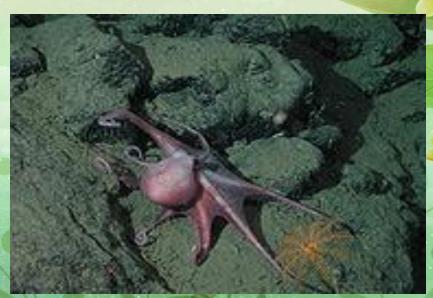
 These exclusively marine animals are characterized by bilateral body symmetry, a prominent head, and a set of arms or tentacles (muscular hydrostats) modified from the primitive molluscan foot. Fishermen sometimes call them inkfish, referring to their common ability to squirt ink.

- The study of cephalopods is a branch of malacology known as teuthology
- Cephalopods became dominant during the <u>Ordovician</u> period, represented by primitive <u>nautiloids</u>.
- About 800 living <u>species</u> of cephalopods have been identified. Two important extinct <u>taxa</u> are the <u>Ammonoidea</u> (ammonites) and <u>Belemnoidea</u> (belemnites).

Distribution

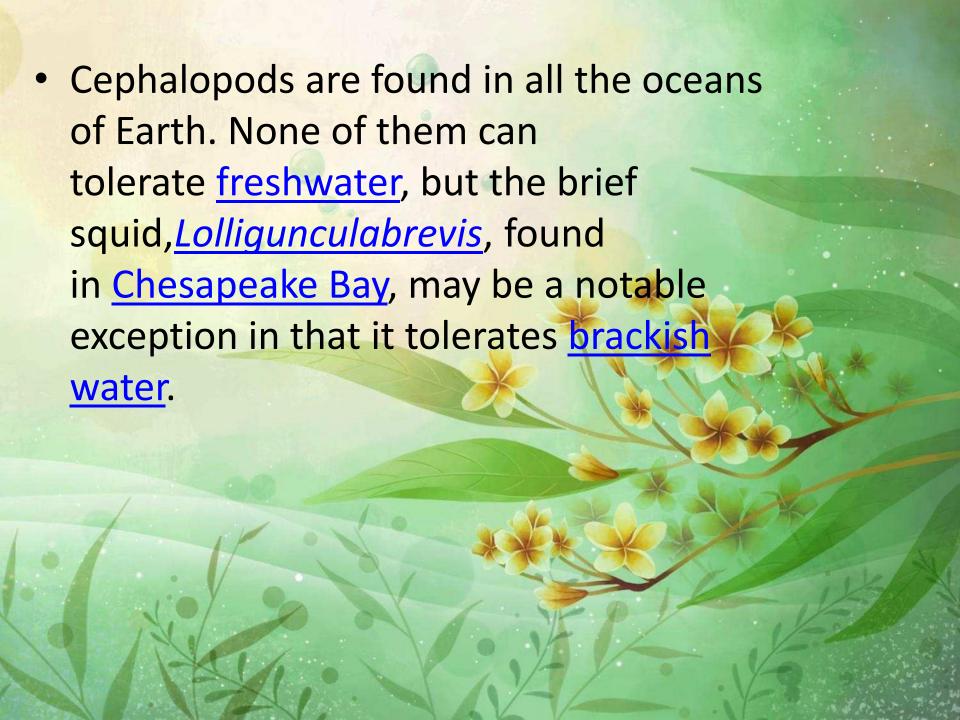


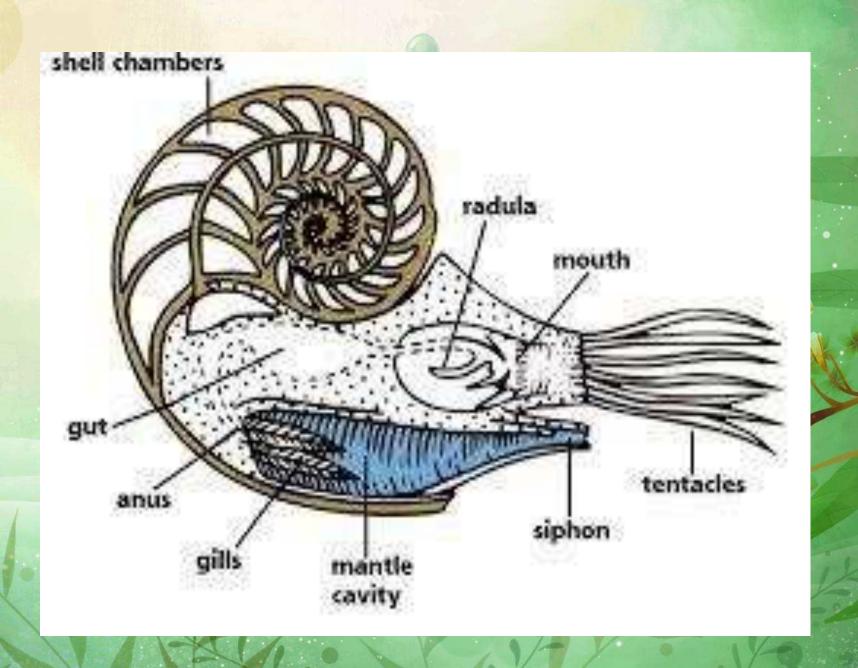
A pair of Sepia officinalis in shallow water



Benthoctopus sp. on the Davidson Seamount

 There are around 800 extant species of cephalopod, although new species continue to be described. An estimated 11,000 extinct taxa have been described, although the softbodied nature of cephalopods means they are not easily fossilised.





Nervous system and behavior



An octopus opening a container with a screw cap

Cephalopods are widely regarded as the most intelligent of the invertebrates, and have well developed senses and large brains (larger than those of gastropods).

- The <u>nervous system</u> of cephalopods is the most complex of the invertebrates. and their brain-to-body-mass ratio falls between that of <u>endothermic</u> and <u>ectothermic</u>vertebrat es.The brain is protected in a <u>cartilaginous</u> cranium.
- The giant <u>nerve</u> fibers of the cephalopod <u>mantle</u> have been widely used for many years as experimental material in <u>neurophysiology</u>

 Some cephalopods are able to "fly" through the air for distances of up to 50 m. While cephalopods are not particularly aerodynamic, they achieve these impressive ranges by jet-propulsion; water continues to be expelled from the funnel while the organism is in the air.

Senses

 Cephalopods have advanced vision, can detect gravity with <u>statocysts</u>, and have a variety of chemical sense organs.Octopuses use their tentacles to explore their environment and can use them for depth perception.

Vision



Cephalopod eye and mollusc eye

- The primitive <u>nautilus</u> eye functions similarly to a <u>pinhole camera</u>.
- Most cephalopods rely on vision to detect predators and prey, and to communicate with one another. Consequently, cephalopod vision is acute: training experiments have shown that the common octopus can distinguish the brightness, size, shape, and horizontal or vertical orientation of objects

 The morphological construction gives cephalopod eyes the same performance as sharks'; however, their construction differs, as cephalopods lack a cornea, and have an everted retina. Cephalopods' eyes are also sensitive to the plane ofpolarization of light.Surprisingly—given their ability to change color—all octopuses and most cephalopods are color blind



Use of light



This broadclub cuttlefish (Sepia latimanus) can go from camouflage tans and browns (top) to yellow with dark highlights (bottom) in less than a second.

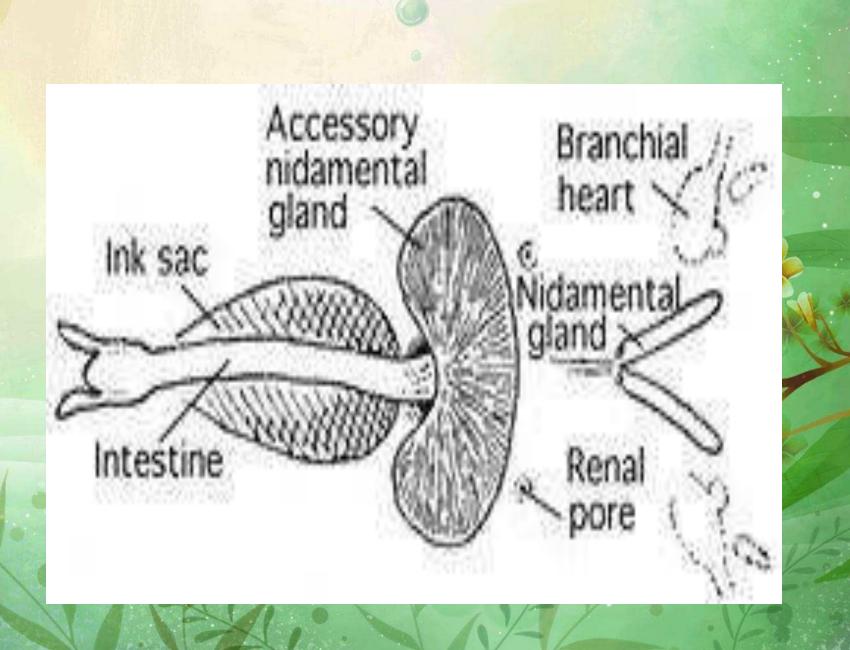
 Most cephalopods possess chromatophores - that is, coloured pigments - which they can use in a startling array of fashions. As well as providing camouflage with their background, some cephalopods bioluminesce, shining light downwards to disguise their shadows from any predators that may lurk

Coloration

 Cephalopods can change their colours and patterns in milliseconds, whether for signalling (both within the species and for warning) oractive camouflage, as their chromatophores are expanded or contracted. Coloration is typically stronger in near-shore species than those living in the open ocean, whose functions tend to be restricted to disruptive camouflage.

Ink

 With the exception of the Nautilidae and the species of octopus belonging to the suborder Cirrina, all known cephalopods have an ink sac, which can be used to expel a cloud of dark ink to confuse predators. This sac is a muscular bag which originated as an extension of the hind gut. It lies beneath the gut and opens into the anus



Circulatory system

Cephalopods are the only mollusks with a closed circulatory system. Coleoids have two gill hearts (also known as branchial hearts) that move blood through the capillaries of the gills. A single systemic heart then pumps the oxygenated blood through the rest of the body.

Respiration

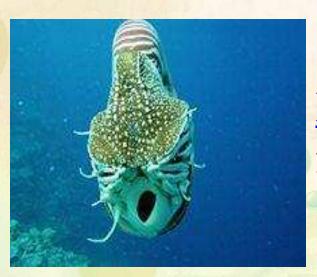
- Cephalopods exchange gases with the seawater by forcing water through their gills, which are attached to the roof of the organism. Water enters the mantle cavity on the outside of the gills, and the entrance of the mantle cavity closes.
- When the mantle contracts, water is forced through the gills, which lie between the mantle cavity and the funnel.

Locomotion and buoyancy



Octopuses swim headfirst, with arms trailing behind

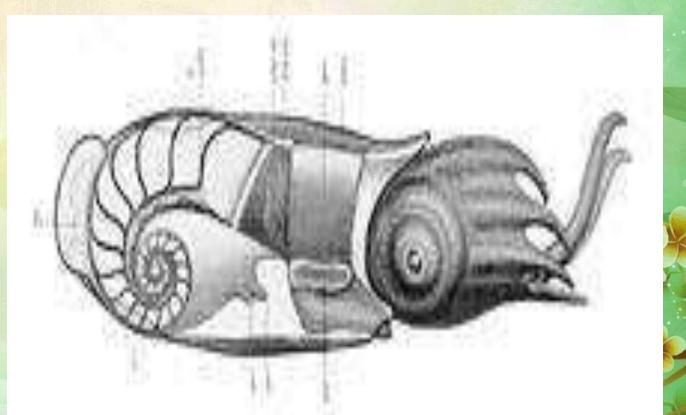




Nautilus belauensis seen from the front

 Early cephalopods are thought to have produced jets by drawing their body into their shells, as Nautilus does today. Nautilus is also capable of creating a jet by undulations of its funnel; this slower flow of water is more suited to the extraction of oxygen from the water.

Shell



Cirrate
shell, Cuttlebone, Gladius
(cephalopod), and Mollusc
shell

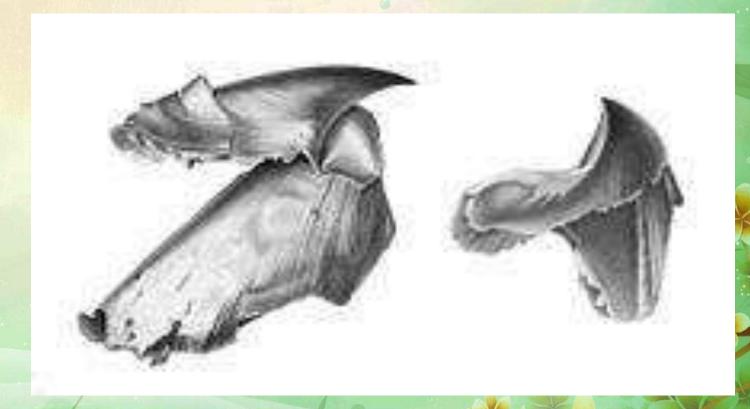
 Cross section of <u>Spirulaspirula</u>, showing the position of the shell inside the mantle



Head appendages

 Cephalopods, as the name implies, have muscular appendages extending from their heads and surrounding their mouths. These are used in feeding, mobility, and even reproduction. In coleoids they number eight or ten. Decapods such as cuttlefish and squid have five pairs.

Feeding



The two-part beak of the giant squid, Architeuthis sp.

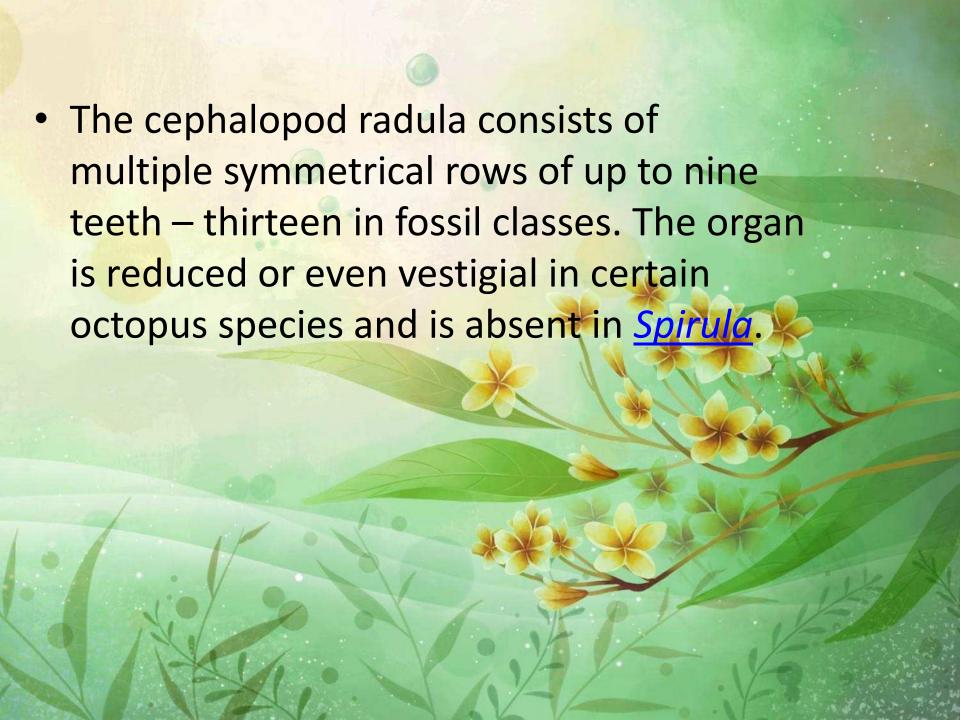
 All living cephalopods have a twopart beak; most have a radula, although it is reduced in most octopus and absent altogether in Spirula. They feed by capturing prey with their tentacles, drawing it into their mouth and taking bites from it

Radula

Radula In cephalopods



Amphioctopusmarginatus eating a crab



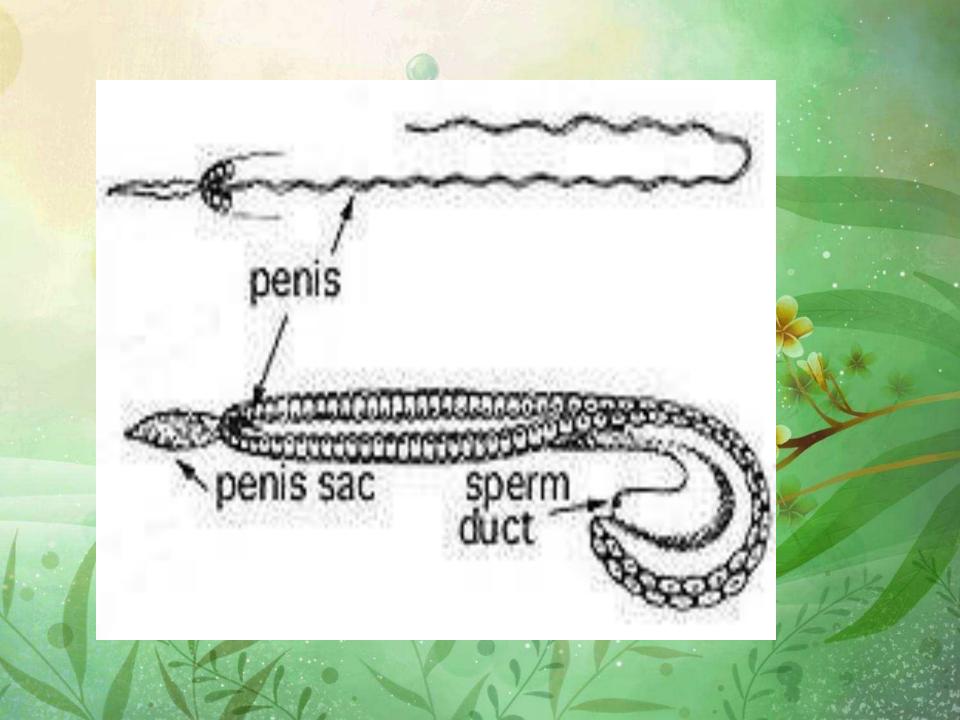
Excretory system

- Most cephalopods possess a single pair of large <u>nephridia</u>. Filtered <u>nitrogenous</u> waste is produced in the <u>pericardial</u> cavity of the <u>branchial hearts</u>, each of which is connected to a nephridium by a narrow canal.
- The canal delivers the excreta to a bladder-like renal sac, and also resorbs excess water from the filtrate.

Reproduction and life cycle

Female <u>Argonautaargo</u> with eggcase and eggs







A specimen of the same species exhibiting elongation of the penis to 67 cm in length



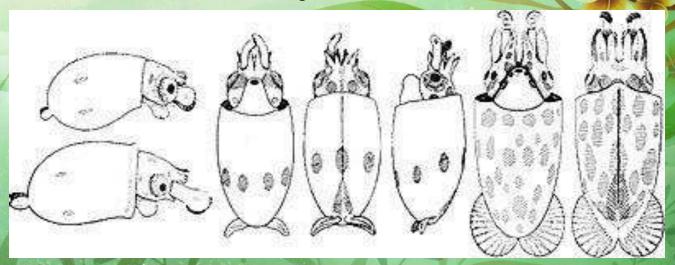
Phylogeny

 The internal phylogeny of the cephalopods is difficult to constrain; many molecular techniques have been adopted, but the results produced are conflicting. Nautilus tends to be considered an outgroup, with Vampyroteuthis forming an outgroup to other squid; however in one analysis the nautiloids, octopus and teuthids plot as a polytomy.

Embryology

 Cephalopod eggs span a large range of sizes, from 1 to 30 mm in diameter.^[78] The fertilised <u>ovum</u> initially divides to produce a disc of germinal cells at one pole, with the <u>yolk</u> remaining at the opposite pol

Development



Evolution

 The traditional view of cephalopod evolution holds that they evolved in the Late Cambrian from amonoplacophoranlike ancestor with a curved, tapering shell, which was closely related to thegastropods (snails).

Taxonomy

Chambered nautilus (Nautilus pompilius)





<u>Chambered</u>
<u>nautilus</u> (Nautilus
pompilius)



Common cuttlefish (Sepia officinalis)



<u>Atlantic bobtail</u> (Sepiolaatlantica)



<u>European squid</u> (Loligo vulgaris)

