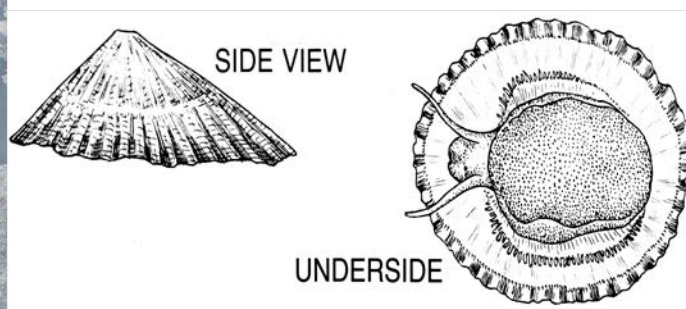


FUN FACT

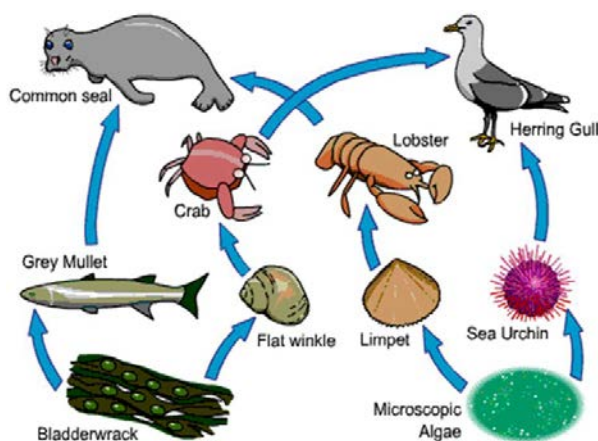
Many people around the world eat limpets. Some people like to barbecue them!

Limpets

Next time you visit the coastline, keep an eye out for these camouflaged conical shells. Related to our land snails, they are in the mollusc family. These shell dwelling animals are an important part of the marine food chain and have an impressive method of feeding. They use their record breaking strong teeth lined along their tongue to scrape tiny pieces of seaweed off rocks, a tongue stronger than the materials found in a bullet proof vest!



Each limpet lives in its own personalised groove on a rock called a rock scar. When the tide goes out, limpets stick tightly to their scar to prevent drying out. You may have tried to pick up a limpet, it's no easy task due to their extreme strength! Once the tide comes in, limpets detach from their scar and slide along the rocks to find food.



Actions:

- Research other types of marine molluscs that can be found around Ireland's coastline.
- Investigate tides. How do they work? For limpets, how does high tide feel compared to low tide?
- Collect shells, trace the different shapes and identify the species