

# **Snail Research Information**

**I transfer the information onto snail shape paper or on pictures of snails. Bright, colorful paper helps!**

- Snails are animals that are classified as invertebrates, meaning they have no backbone. There are 80,000 kinds of snails. They grow in size from 2 mm to 61 cm. Snails can live from 2-20 years.
- Snails have soft bodies that are covered by a coiled shell. They have a head, tentacles, a mouth, and tiny teeth. They have a strong muscular organ called a foot that moves them along. Their tiny glands make a layer of slime that protects the foot.
- Snails have no sense of smell. Most snails do have lungs. Snails like to live in a moist environment. They live in three ecosystems; land, fresh water, and salt water.
- Snails eat plants and rotting vegetation. They have tiny teeth which are attached to their tongues (called a radula). They shred their food into small pieces.
- Some predators of the snail are birds, toads, mice, and snakes. The Helix Garden Snail is cooked and eaten as a delicacy called escargot.