

**MATERIAL**

set of or photographs of limpet shells

**PROCESS SKILLS**

- Observing
- Identifying
- Classifying

## Creating a Dichotomous Key for Limpet Shells

Limpets are marine invertebrates found along rocky shorelines around the world. The flattened shape of a limpet's shell allows it to withstand the impact of waves, and its muscular foot allows it to cling tightly to rocks. Although biologists today classify limpets by using traits of the entire organism, for this activity you will construct a dichotomous key based on shell characteristics.

Dichotomous keys are used to identify objects or organisms that have already been described by another scientist. As its name implies (*di-* means "two"), a dichotomous key is made up of paired statements. Each pair of statements divides the objects to be classified into two categories. This means that each object must fit into one category or the other, but not both. At the right is a simple example of a dichotomous key that identifies five common beans. As you proceed from step to step, the classification is narrowed down until all five beans are identified.

**SAMPLE DICHOTOMOUS KEY FOR BEANS**

- |   |
|---|
| 1a. If the bean is round ..... it is a garbanzo bean.     |
| 1b. If the bean is oblong ..... go to step 2.             |
| 2a. If the bean is white ... it is a white northern bean. |
| 2b. If the bean is dark-colored ..... go to step 3.       |
| 3a. If the bean is a solid color ..... go to step 4.      |
| 3b. If the bean is speckled ..... it is a pinto bean.     |
| 4a. If the bean is black ..... it is a black bean.        |
| 4b. If the bean is reddish-brown ... it is a kidney bean. |

**PROBLEM** What characteristics can you use to make a dichotomous key for limpet shells?

**PROCEDURE**

1. Identify some characteristics of each limpet shell. Characteristics may include margin (edge) variation, shape, color, and features on the shell.
2. Construct a dichotomous key, using the above sample for beans as a guide. Start with a general characteristic that separates your limpets into two groups. [Example: Keyhole limpets have a hole at the highest point of their shell; true limpets do not.]
3. Continue making paired statements that become more detailed.
  - Each pair of statements must contain only two choices, and these choices must refer to the same characteristic. [Example: Do not compare size and color in the same pair of statements.] Every limpet that has not yet been identified must fit one of the two choices.
  - Do not use vague terms such as *big* and *little*. Be as specific as possible.
  - Each statement must either identify a limpet or lead to another step in the key.
4. Trade dichotomous keys with another student or group in your class. Check to make sure you can identify each limpet using your classmates' key.

# Dichotomous Key For Limpet Shells Answers

**Albert A Gayle**



**Dichotomous Key For Limpet Shells Answers:**

Dichotomous Key For Limpet Shells Answers: Bestsellers in 2023 The year 2023 has witnessed a remarkable surge in literary brilliance, with numerous engrossing novels captivating the hearts of readers worldwide. Lets delve into the realm of top-selling books, exploring the captivating narratives that have captivated audiences this year. Dichotomous Key For Limpet Shells Answers : Colleen Hoover's "It Ends with Us" This poignant tale of love, loss, and resilience has captivated readers with its raw and emotional exploration of domestic abuse. Hoover expertly weaves a story of hope and healing, reminding us that even in the darkest of times, the human spirit can succeed. Dichotomous Key For Limpet Shells Answers : Taylor Jenkins Reid's "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" This captivating historical fiction novel unravels the life of Evelyn Hugo, a Hollywood icon who defies expectations and societal norms to pursue her dreams. Reid's absorbing storytelling and compelling characters transport readers to a bygone era, immersing them in a world of glamour, ambition, and self-discovery. Dichotomous Key For Limpet Shells Answers : Delia Owens' "Where the Crawdads Sing" This captivating coming-of-age story follows Kya Clark, a young woman who grows up alone in the marshes of North Carolina. Owens crafts a tale of resilience, survival, and the transformative power of nature, captivating readers with its evocative prose and mesmerizing setting. These popular novels represent just a fraction of the literary treasures that have emerged in 2023. Whether you seek tales of romance, adventure, or personal growth, the world of literature offers an abundance of compelling stories waiting to be discovered. The novel begins with Richard Papen, a bright but troubled young man, arriving at Hampden College. Richard is immediately drawn to the group of students who call themselves the Classics Club. The club is led by Henry Winter, a brilliant and charismatic young man. Henry is obsessed with Greek mythology and philosophy, and he quickly draws Richard into his world. The other members of the Classics Club are equally as fascinating. Bunny Corcoran is a wealthy and spoiled young man who is always looking for a good time. Charles Tavis is a quiet and reserved young man who is deeply in love with Henry. Camilla Macaulay is a beautiful and intelligent young woman who is drawn to the power and danger of the Classics Club. The students are all deeply in love with Morrow, and they are willing to do anything to please him. Morrow is a complex and mysterious figure, and he seems to be manipulating the students for his own purposes. As the students become more involved with Morrow, they begin to commit increasingly dangerous acts. The Secret History is a brilliant and suspenseful novel that will keep you wondering until the very end. The novel is a warning tale about the dangers of obsession and the power of evil.

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During World War II, an African-American officer investigates a murder that may have been racially motivated.