



All freshwater mussels have several features in common. They all have two valves, the right and left valves that form its shell. The inside of the shell usually glistens like a pearl. In Latin, unio means pearl.

Biologists call freshwater mussels unionids, because of the pearly appearance of the inside of the shell. The pearly interior is called the nacre, and the shell of some species of freshwater mussels is used to make buttons, or grow cultured pearls.

K P S Q E K U G L S U B D H P
 V Y H W M S C V M T M T F O J
 U A E D U L J B R P E A L Y E
 H K L N S M R U F N J L O X S
 Q J L V S C S T X G U W S N T
 U N I O E R Q T I T A E H E I
 W S H V L S F O A W Q N A U M
 O N F L S A U N I O N I D S A
 Z M I A E J T S H E K T R V T
 R A L R G S R E D B Y L Y K E
 U V C O A B I O L O G I S T V
 G A F J B W N E N A F U C O G
 N D W E M D G S V L N A D O S
 R Y A G E Y S P T U O C T F R
 K B T W M G R O W T H G R L M

FIND THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN THE WORD SEARCH:

- MUSSELS
- UNIO
- UNIONIDS
- VALVES
- FOOT
- SHELL
- NACRE
- RINGS
- ESTIMATE
- BUTTONS
- BIOLOGIST
- POLLUTANTS

