



OYSTER BIOLOGY

Oysters are bivalve molluscs that live in the ocean. They have a really interesting life cycle that takes them from eggs, to larvae that float, and finally they develop two hard shells and cement themselves to rocks or other shells. This wordsearch names some of the important stages and principles along the lifecycle of oysters. Can you find all the words?

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

BIVALVE
BROODING
DISPERSION
FEEDING
FILTRATION
GROWTH
HERMAPHRODITE
LARVAE
LIFECYCLE
OYSTER
PLANKTON
REPRODUCTION
SESSILE
SPAT

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Bivalve: the taxonomic class of invertebrates mussels and oysters are part of by having an upper and a lower shell.

Dispersion: the spread/transport of individuals at any stage of its life history.

Hermaphrodite: organism with male and female sexual organs.

Lifecycle: see the oyster lifecycle on the next page!

Plankton: all the small and microscopic organisms drifting or floating in the sea or fresh water.

Spat: young oysters after they settle and attach to a rock or shell.



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