Q: Label the parts of the snail in the picture below.
A:

Q: What kind of animal is a snail?
A: Student can answer either: gastropod or invertebrate.

Q: List 3 places snails can live.
A: Student answer can contain any of the following: land, ocean, river, lake, stream, freshwater, or garden.
Q: List 2 things a snail’s shell helps protect them from.
A: **Student answer can contain any of the following:** heat, sun, wind, predators, birds, insects, reptiles, mammals, fish, or crabs.

Q: Snails are **herbivores**; what do they eat?
A: **Student can answer:** plants or parts of plants.

Q: Write down 3 **organic** (living) things and 3 **inorganic** (nonliving) things that you might find where a snail lives.
A: **For organic things, students can answer:** snails, birds, insects, reptiles, mammals, fish, crabs, plants, mushrooms, or any other living thing that might be found in a snail’s habitat.

**For inorganic things, students can answer:** water, air, sun, rocks, sand, or any other nonliving thing that might be found in a snail’s habitat.

Q: Have you ever seen a snail? Write about the time you saw one! Or write about what you would and would not do if you saw one.
A: **This is a free response where students can be creative. They should indicate that:** they would be careful around snails or handle with care. **They should also indicate that:** they would never purposely put salt on a snail.
**Vocabulary:**

**Herbaceous** - An animal that only eats plants or plant parts.

**Habitat** - A place where a plant or animal lives. All good habitats contain food, water, and shelter.

**Organic** - Anything that is or was alive (living).

**Inorganic** - Anything that is not alive and has never been alive (nonliving).

**Invertebrate** - An animal with no backbone.

**Gastropod** - A type of animal with a soft body and one shell. They use a foot to move. Snails and whelks are gastropods.

**Mucus** - Slimy liquid that a snail uses to glide on surfaces keep from drying out. This is the same type of liquid as when you have a runny nose.

**Foot** - The muscular body a snail uses to move.

**Eye stalks** - The tentacles with eyes on the end that a snail uses to see.

**Lifecycle** - A series of changes in an organism’s life. In a snail’s life, their lifecycle consists of hatching from eggs, being a baby snail, becoming an adult snail, mating with another snail, and laying eggs to have more baby snails.

**Niche** - The role of the living thing (plant, animal, or fungus) in an ecosystem.

**Ecosystem** - The interaction of living things and nonliving things.
Additional Resources:

Academic Kids Encyclopedia Entry: Gastropod

Kids Soup Snail Activities, Crafts, and Lesson Plans