

## Identification key:

1. Fan-shaped or elongated shell with prolonged ligament in the form of auricles – **Pectinidae**  
 Shell ligament does not form auricles ..... 2
  
2. Each valve contains only one impression of the adductor muscle; asymmetric shell with irregular shape and rough surface – **Ostreidae** (e.g. *Crassostrea gigas* - Oyster)  
 Each valve with two impressions of the adductor muscle and paleal line without paleal sinus ..... 3
  
3. Smooth or with thin ribs, triangular shell; shell ligament without cardinal teeth; anterior or terminal umbo – **Mytilidae** (e.g. *Mytilus galloprovincialis* - Mussel)  
 Shell ligament with teeth, chondrophores or both .... 4
  
4. Shell quite elongated with regular shape; each valve with only one cardinal tooth – **Solenidae** (e.g. *Solen marginatus* - Razor clam)  
 Shell does not present the above-mentioned characteristics; paleal line with a posterior paleal sinus  
 ..... 5

5. Shell presenting only external ligament; both valves with 3 cardinal teeth; thick shell, sub-triangular and with well noticed ribs – **Veneridae** (e.g. *Ruditapes philippinarum* - Clam)

Shell with external, internal ligament and chondrophore ..... 6

6. Flattened shell; left valve with 1 or 2 cardinal teeth; displays cruciform muscle impressions – **Semelidae** (e.g. *Scrobicularia plana* - Peppery furrow shell)

Equivalve shell; strongly convex with well-developed ribs; external shell ligament – **Cardiidae** (e.g. *Cerastoderma edule* - cockle)