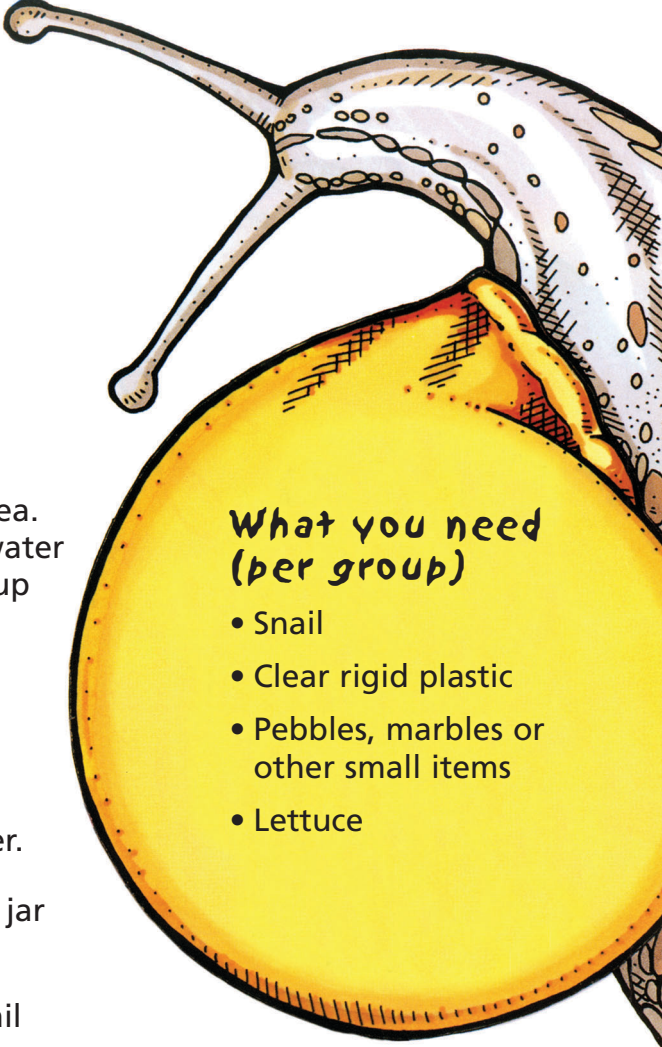


Snail Trails

Snails slime along from the snow line to beneath the sea. Snails like damp places, but they can survive without water by hiding out inside of their shells. They actually plug up their shell opening to seal themselves off.

What you do:

1. Find a snail. Morning or evening is usually the best time to go snail hunting. Snails really like gardens. The best time of year is during the spring or summer.
2. Lift the snail gently by the shell. Place it in a box or jar to bring to school. Feed your snail lettuce.
3. Remove your snail from the container. Place the snail on a sheet of clear plastic.
4. Hold up the plastic to observe the snail as it crawls. If the snail won't move, place some lettuce at one end of the plastic.
5. Place objects on the plastic in the path of the snail. Watch the snail glide across the objects.
6. Observe from above and below the snail.
7. If you feel really brave, place the snail on your hand. Feel the creature slime across your palm.
8. Return the animal to a moist area. Away from your garden would be the best bet.



What you need (per group)

- Snail
- Clear rigid plastic
- Pebbles, marbles or other small items
- Lettuce

