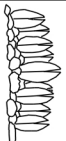
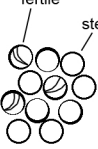

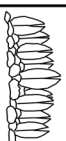
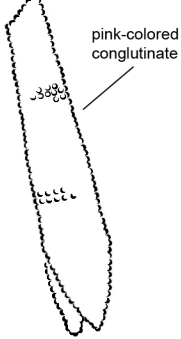
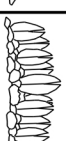
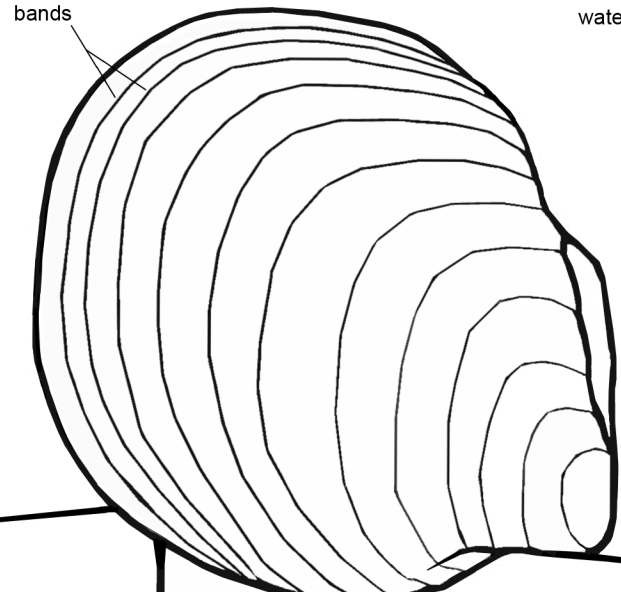

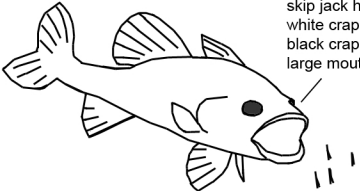
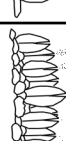


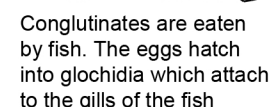

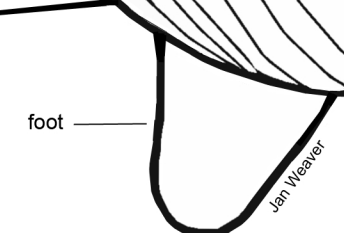

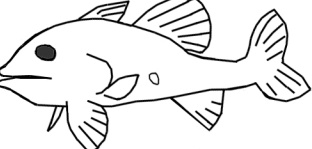
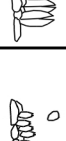


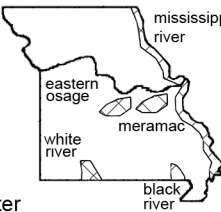
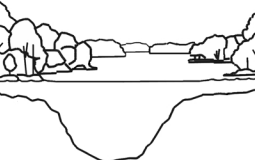

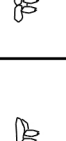
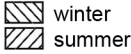

	January	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Ebony Shell Mussel</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Fusconaia ebena</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Animalia > Mollusca > Bivalvia > Unionida > Unionidae</p>		<p>Animal Diversity Web - animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/accounts/Fusconaia_ebena/</p> <p>Missouri Department of Conservation - mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/ebonyshell</p>		
	February	<p>Eggs are fertilized in June, then brooded for one or more months by females. Females also make sterile, pink-colored eggs they combine with fertile eggs.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 20px;"> <p style="font-size: small;">fertile</p>  </div> <div> <p style="font-size: small;">sterile</p>  </div> </div>		<p>Coloring Guide adults - light or dark brown or black juveniles - yellow to bright green</p>		
	March	<p>The eggs are glued together in a small (2.5 cm/1") worm-like structure called a conglutinate which looks like something good to eat to fish. They are then released into the water</p> 		<p>Size length 7 to 10 cm (2.5 to 4") shells very heavy and dense</p> <p>Age average 10 to 40 years, but some are over 100 years</p>		
	April	<p>growth bands</p> 		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	May	<p>host fish: skip jack herring white crappie black crappie large mouth bass</p> 		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	June	<p>ebony shell mussel bed</p> 		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	July	<p>Conglutinates are eaten by fish. The eggs hatch into glochidia which attach to the gills of the fish</p> 		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	August	<p>foot</p>  <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Jan Weaver</p>		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	September	<p>The glochidia hitch a ride for weeks to months but eventually develop into juveniles and drop off the gills. They settle on the bottom where they may live up to 40 years. This is how the mussels move upstream.</p> 		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	October	<p>glo - chid - i - um : one larva glo - chid - i - a : many larva con - glu - ti - nate : glued together</p>		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	November	<p>North American Distribution</p> 	<p>Missouri Distribution</p> 	<p>Habitat (home/food/water) big rivers and the streams that feed them</p> 	<p>Home swift flowing water 1.8 m (6') deep sand, gravel or rocks</p> 	<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>
	December	<p>winter summer</p> 		<p>Human Connection 1800's to 1950's major source of freshwater pearls, and pearl buttons. Today, pieces of shell used to seed other species for cultured pearls. Endangered in Missouri</p>		
	January	<p>What eats Ebony Shells raccoons, river otters, muskrats, herons, egrets and large fish</p>		<p>What eats Ebony Shells eat they filter phytoplankton, zooplankton, bacteria, fungal spores and dissolved organic matter from the water</p>		