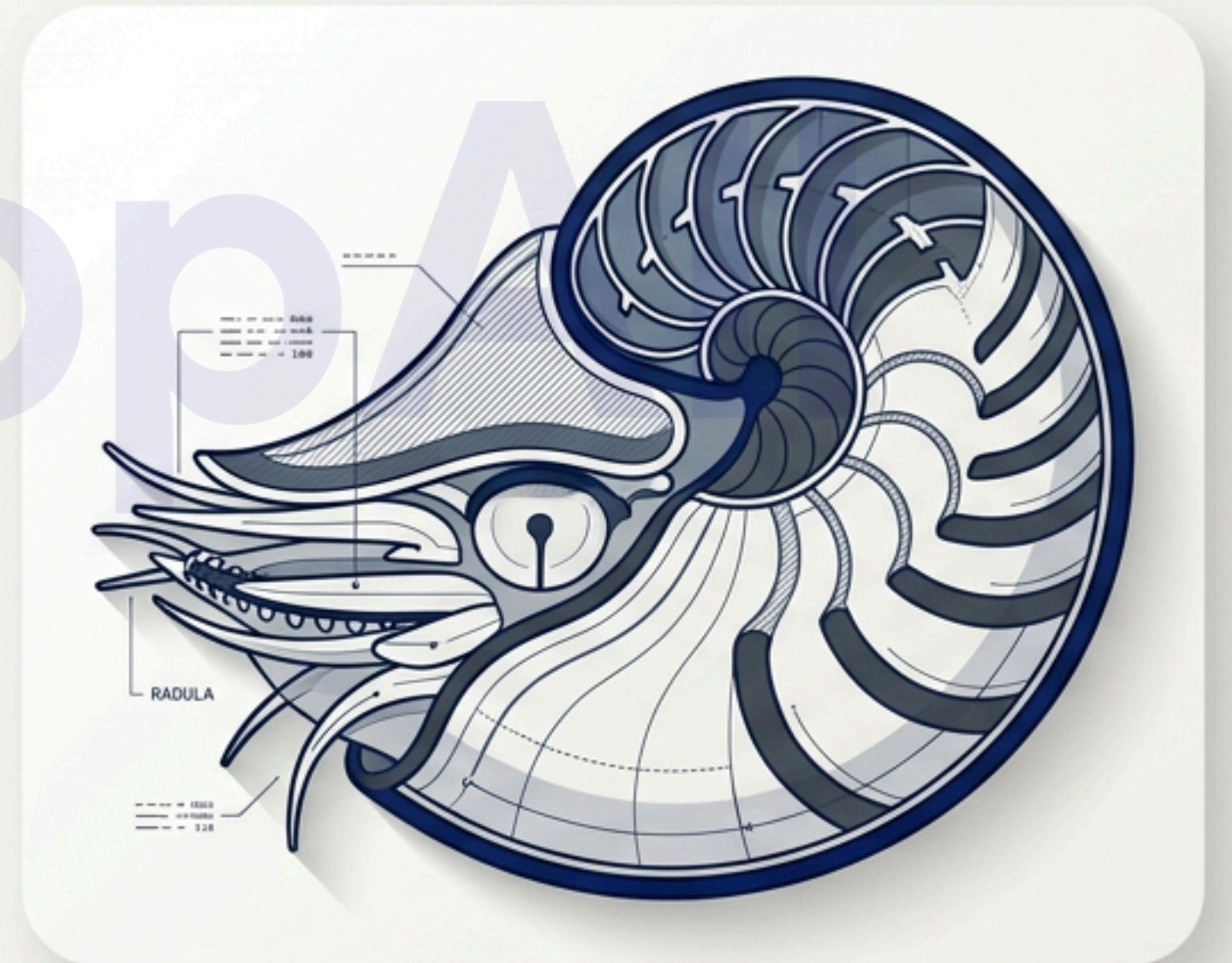


Soft Bodies, Shells and Radula

An anatomical deconstruction
of Phylum Mollusca.



The Second Largest Animal Phylum

HABITAT SCALE



Found across terrestrial, marine, and freshwater habitats worldwide.

TAXONOMIC PROFILE

Organ-System
Level

Bilateral
Symmetry

Triploblastic

Coelomate

Despite extreme environmental diversity, all molluscs share a highly conserved, unsegmented fundamental body plan.

The Tripartite Body Plan

The unsegmented body is universally divided into three core anatomical regions:



Distinct Head

The anterior region containing sensory tentacles for environmental mapping.



Visceral Hump

The centralized mass containing the internal organ systems.



Muscular Foot

The primary ventral engine for locomotion and anchorage.



You've Learned the Theory. Let's Test Them Now.

$$E=mc^2$$



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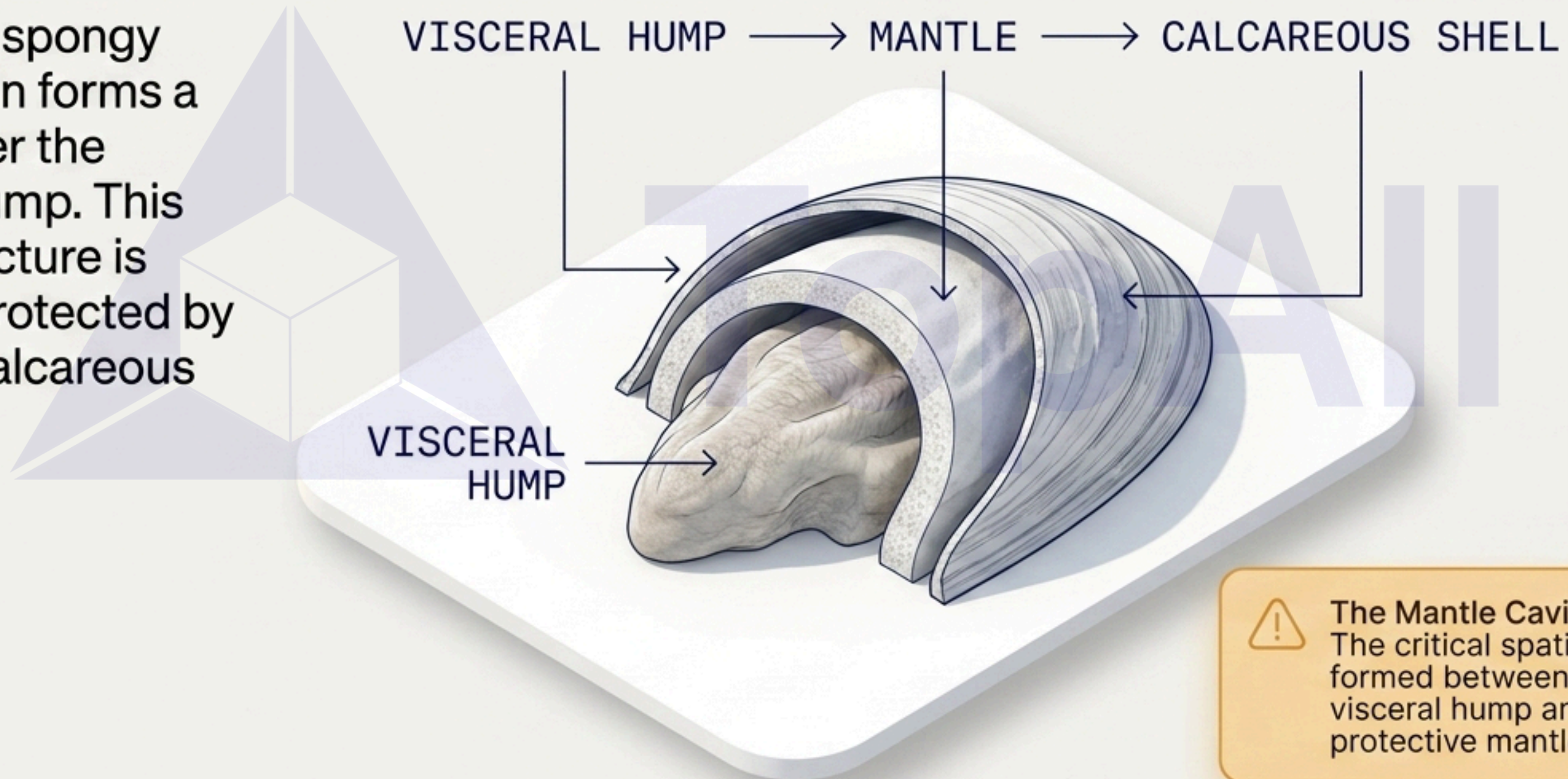
Key Highlights

- » Free Study Material, Videos & Infographics
- » Push Your Limits with Level-Based Challenges
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- » Get Clear Explanations, Not Just Marks
- » Track Your Performance Smarter



Armor and Skin

A soft and spongy layer of skin forms a mantle over the visceral hump. This entire structure is typically protected by an outer calcareous shell.

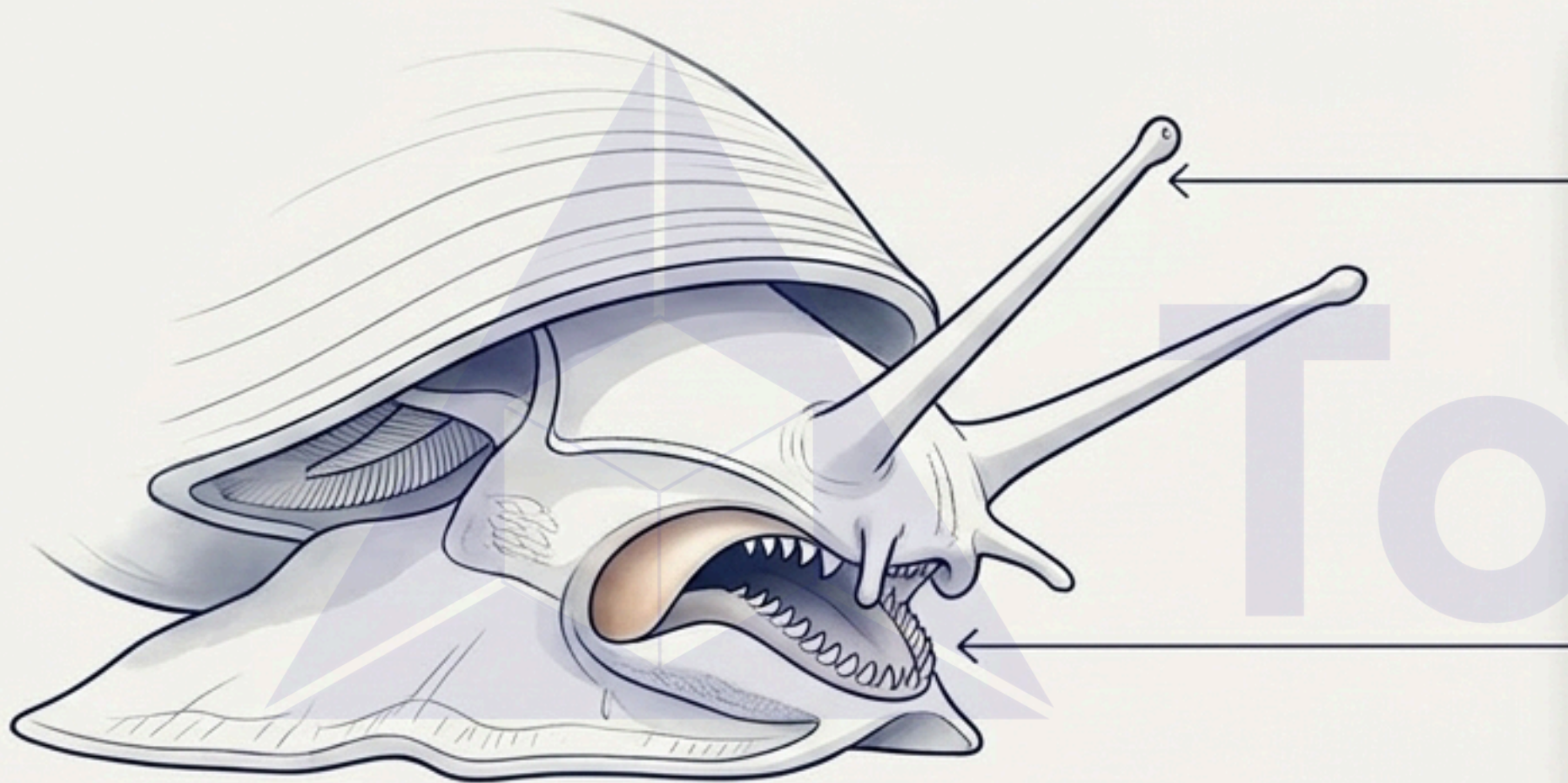


Dual-Purpose Gills

Located securely within the mantle cavity are the feather-like gills.



Environmental Interaction



Sensory Tentacles

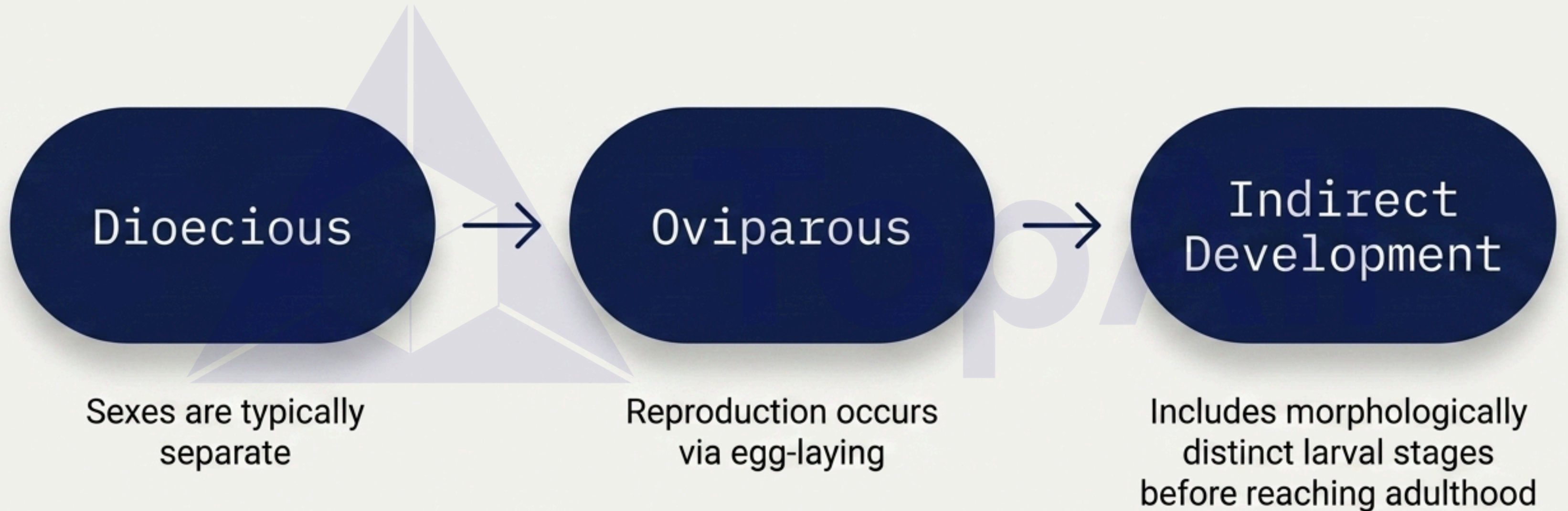
Located on the anterior head region for spatial and chemical awareness.

The Radula

The unique file-like rasping organ located inside the mouth, used exclusively for feeding and scraping.

The **radula** is a defining anatomical hallmark of molluscs, acting like a biological chainsaw to process food before digestion.

Reproduction & Development



Morphological Diversity



(a) Pila (Apple snail)



(b) Octopus (Devil fish)

Other Notable Examples:

Pinctada (Pearl oyster), Sepia (Cuttlefish), Loligo (Squid), Aplysia (Sea-hare), Dentalium (Tusk shell), Chaetopleura (Chiton).



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