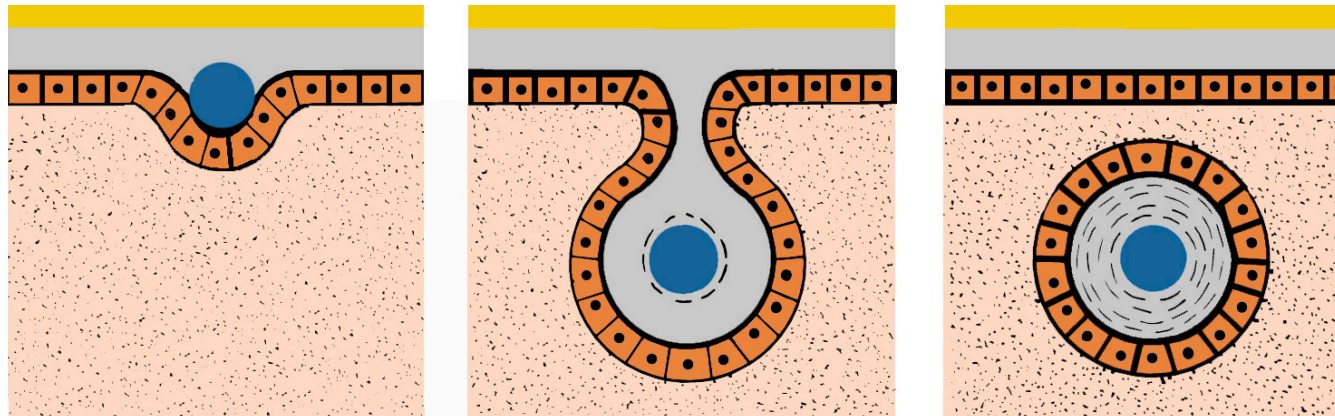


# How is a pearl formed?

## Activity 1: The formation of a Pearl

Age Group: 10 – 8 years old

Have you ever felt specks of dust in your nose? I am sure it was annoying and all you wanted was to snort it out your nose right? Well, we think that when a grain of sand or a small sea-creature gets inside an oyster shell, the oyster realizes the problem and tries to push it out. To help do this the oyster wraps it in layers of shell (nacre) and sometimes a sphere is created. This is one theory on how a pearl is formed!




**Did you know that Pearling was the main industry in Bahrain until the discovery of oil in the early 1930?**

Pearls were gathered in Bahrain 5000 years ago. For over 2000 years, Bahrain has been the centre of a major pearl fishery and its oyster have produced some of the most beautiful and lustrous pearls in the world. During the 18th and early 19th centuries, Bahrain was the main centre of pearl fishing in the Arabian Gulf and had a massive pearling fleet of 2430 dhows.

# How is a pearl formed?

## Activity 2: Make your own origami oyster shell

1. Fold in half
2. Fold in half
3. Open the pocket from 
4. Flatten to square
5. Turn over
6. Open and flatten the pocket like Figs 4 & 3
7. Fold to make creases and fold back
8. Lift the corner up to make a pockets
9. Flatten the pockets
10. Turn over
11. Fold in the dotted lines
12. Fold in the dotted lines
13. Fold backward in the dotted lines
14. Open
15. Fold backward in the dotted lines
16. Fold backward in the dotted lines
17. Finished

