

## Clam Feeding and Digestion (Lesson 11)

### ANSWER KEY

Water enters the clam through the (1) incurrent siphon, bringing

with it microscopic food particles. These food particles are “trapped” by the

(2) gills, the same organs that remove oxygen from the water.

From the (2) gills the food particles move toward the

(3) mouth where they are swept in by tiny flaps called

(4) labial palps. The food particles then travel through a tube

called the (5) esophagus to the main organ of digestion, which is the

(6) stomach. Absorption is accomplished by the

(7) digestive gland and digestive wastes travel away from the

(6) stomach via a tube called the (8) intestine.

The latter end of this tube is called the (9) rectum. At the end of the

(9) rectum is an opening called the (10) anus through

which digestive and liquid wastes empty into the

(11) suprabranchial chamber, an open area between the

two gill pairs that leads to the (12) excurrent siphon. The

(12) excurrent siphon conducts all materials to the outside of

the clam.