Refer to *Introduction to Mindfulness* at the beginning of this book for more information and tips on Mindfulness practice.

Precious Pearl

- Before beginning this practice, teacher explains what a clam is and uses hands to demonstrate the action of a clam shell opening and closing, keeping the edge of the palms and little fingers together.
- Teacher guides pupils through the following mindfulness practice using the script below.
- ☆ Pupils start in **Sitting Mountain** posture.

Bring both of your hands out in front of your body. Bend the elbows, arms close by the sides, finger and thumb tips together, like a clam that's closed.

Now soften your eyes, listen to your body breathing... not trying to change it in any way... just letting it be as it is right now... (pause)

Breathing in we press the fingers and thumbs together gently...

Breathing out, the hands open up; just like clams opening to show their precious pearls.

Breathing in, close your clam again to protect the precious pearls.

Keep going... opening and closing your clam in time with our breathing, nice and slowly.

Breathing in as the clam closes... and breathing out as it opens... (repeat 2-3 times)

In a moment*, we'll finish with open clams... (take another couple of breaths)

Slowly now letting our hands rest back on your lap.

Coming back to Sitting Mountain... Pause, breathe normally and smile.

*If using a bell or chime, say "When the bell rings" here and gently ring the bell after another couple of breaths.

Indation



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Additional printable and interactive resources to support these activities are available online at www.IrishHeart.ie

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Mindfulness

Learning across the Curriculum

Precious Pearl

This Bizzy Break can be used as a starting point to explore **what being healthy means** and **marine life**. You might like to try the below activities.

SPHE

Strand: Myself **Strand Unit:** Taking care of my body

- Brainstorming what it means to be a 'healthy' person and capturing this in a drawing, painting or collage.
- Science

Strand: Living things **Strand Unit:** Plants and animals

- Investigating the seashore as a habitat.
- Naming and learning about other land and sea animals that have shells.

Easy-Peasy-Squeezy

This Bizzy Break can be used as a starting point to explore **relaxation** and **pushing/pulling**. You might like to try the below activities.

SPHE

Strand: Myself **Strand Unit:** Taking care of my body

- Science
- Strand: Energy and forces Strand Unit: Forces
- Classifying different physical activities as pushing, pulling or both.
- Discussing the importance of rest and relaxation for health and wellbeing.
- Listing different things we can do to help us to relax.

Irish Heart

Foundation

Additional printable and interactive resources to support these activities are available online at www.lrishHeart.ie