The conch shell is also used in decorations and jewelry. Culinary dishes, including salads, stews, and fritters. The Conch Fishery contributes significantly to The Bahamas, both socially and economically. Conch meat is considered a delicacy and is used in numerous culinary dishes, including salads, stews, and fritters. The conch shell is also used in decorations and jewelry. The conch is herbivorous, a plant eater. In their larval stage, they feed on phytoplankton. However, as juveniles and adults, they graze on epiphytes, which are algae found on seagrass blades.

Importance
The Conch Fishery contributes significantly to The Bahamas, both socially and economically. Conch meat is considered a delicacy and is used in numerous culinary dishes, including salads, stews, and fritters. The conch shell is also used in decorations and jewelry.

Threats
Queen Conch populations are declining throughout The Caribbean. Its meat popularity, slow maturity, and habitat choice can result in overharvesting and juvenile harvesting. For this reason, The Queen Conch is listed under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). This means, conch can be traded if a sustainable fishery management plan is in place. Many Caribbean nations, including The Bahamas, are signatories of CITES.

Conservation
The Bahamian efforts to manage their Conch Fishery include quotas for conch harvest and export, prohibition of scuba gear use during conch fishing, and harvested conch must have a well-formed lip. In addition, underwater national parks such as the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, are established and managed by the Bahamas National Trust to protect The Queen Conch and other marine animals from being fished.

How to Help
- Respect government regulations
- Support conch conservation efforts
- Report harmful conch fishing practices to The Bahamas Department of Marine Resources

Queen Conch Diet
The Queen Conch is a marine gastropod found in seagrass beds in The Bahamas, South Florida, and the Caribbean. In the Caribbean, it is known as the pink conch, lambis, currucho, caracol rosado, and karko. Its scientific name is Aliger gigas.

Natural Predators
Larvae are prone to being eaten by small fish and other zooplankton while drifting in ocean currents. As they age, a shell is formed that continues to thicken and develop spines for added protection.

Queen Conch Anatomy
The Queen Conch is recognized by its large vibrant pink shell with a large flared lip. Inside the shell, the conch has a brownish gray speckled muscular foot with an operculum or claw used to propel the conch in a leaping action. The conch also has 2 long eyestalks each with a sensory tentacle and between its eyes is a tube-like mouth (proboscis) used for grazing. The conch is herbivorous, a plant eater. In their larval stage, they feed on phytoplankton. However, as juveniles and adults, they graze on epiphytes, which are algae found on seagrass blades.

Life Cycle

Queen Conch Diet

Natural Predators