

are mainly found in tropical oceans. 10 When some sand gets inside the shell of an oyster, the oyster covers this area of its shell with layers of a mineral called mother-of-pearl. In 1894 CE, Kokichi Mikimoto, a Japanese businessman, discovered a way to make pearls. He put a small natural mother-of-pearl 'bead' into a living oyster shell. The oyster began to cover the 'bead' with more layers of mother-of-pearl, and eventually the bead became a pearl