**Prosthechea cochleata**
Clamshell Orchid

The Clamshell Orchid is widespread throughout the Caribbean and Central America, growing as far north as Florida. Often found in swamps high on the trunks of trees, this orchid requires more sunlight than other more shade-tolerant orchids. The flower has a labellum that may be deep purple or cream-colored and forms a small hood (the shell) on the top of the flower. The thin green petals and sepals dangle like tentacles below it, suggesting its other common name, Octopus Orchid. Although members of the same species, the plants in Florida have flowers that differ from those found in other places. These flowers have an extra anther and produce more pollen that encourages self-pollination - an important adaptation when insect pollinators are not present.

To learn more about the Clamshell Orchid, scan the QR code with your phone or visit the species page on Go Orchids at goorchids.northamericanorchidcenter.org

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**Attention!**
The orchid should be glued to the INSIDE of shape A (see diagram below).

Orange arrows indicate where you can gently curl the paper around a pencil or similar object.

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Paper is fragile so be gentle when you push out the shapes. Construct the separate pieces before assembling them together.
This is what the paper Clamshell Orchid will look like when built.