

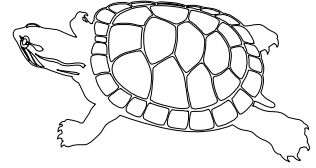
At the Estuarium

3rd – 5th Grade Activity

Name: _____

Before the Delta

1. How long ago did mosasaurs live on earth? _____



Mobile Delta Gallery

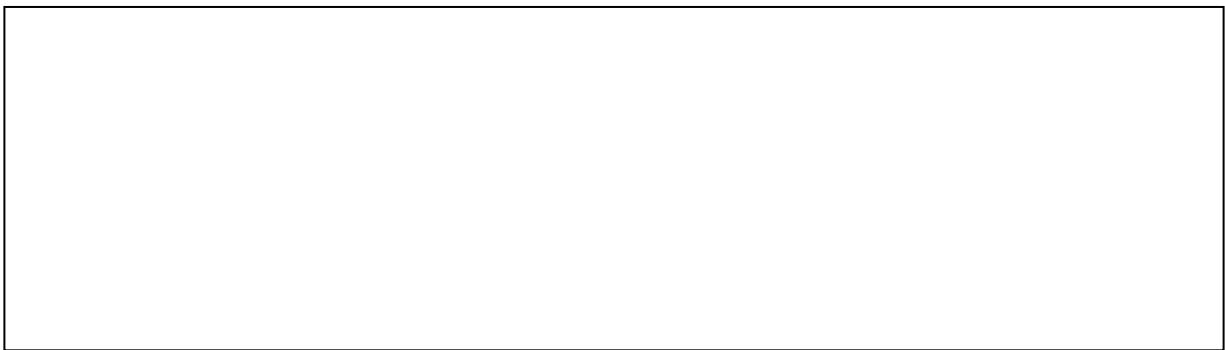
1. Are the animals in the Mobile Delta gallery living in fresh water or salt water?

2. Amphibians and reptiles are ectothermic (cold blooded). What does this mean?

Name one *amphibian* that is not a frog found in this gallery. _____

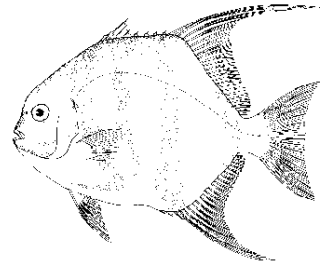
3. Name two plants growing in Alabama that might eat animals. _____
_____ What are two major threats to the long-term survival of the bogs these plants live in? _____

4. Name and draw the King of the Delta. Why is it called the King of the Delta?



5. What *insect* can you find in the Mobile Delta that is an *invasive species*?

Mobile Bay Gallery



1. In the largest tank in this gallery, find the fish with a "beard" (more technically known as *barbels*, which taste). What kind of fish is it? *Hint: this is not a catfish.* _____

2. Name, and describe or draw, your favorite animal at the touch table.

Is it a vertebrate or an invertebrate? _____

3. Name three things you can do to help ensure that seahorses don't go extinct in the wild. _____

4. How much water can one oyster filter in an hour? _____
What body part do they use to filter? _____ What do they filter out of the water? _____

5. Name four animals that live among salt marsh grasses. _____

Barrier Island Gallery

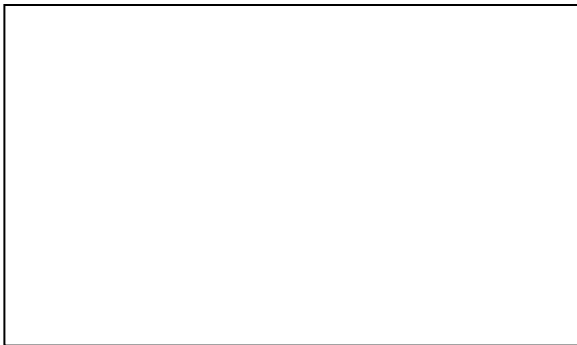


1. The sediments of Mobile Bay come from the erosion of what mountain chain?

2. What was the first name the French gave to Dauphin Island? _____

_____ What year was Dauphin Island given that name? _____

3. Draw a hurricane in the box below.



Does a hurricane form in warm water or cool water? _____

4. Name two *reptiles* that can be found in the Maritime Forest tank. _____

5. **Billy Goat Hole:** Use the fishing pole to catch a fish. What kind did you catch? _____

How long was it? _____

Was it long enough to legally keep? _____

6. **Soup of the Sea:** What makes an organism plankton? (Circle one)

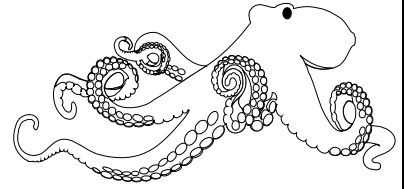
a. a drifting lifestyle b. small size c. certain body features

d. all of the above

What kind of plankton produces most of the oxygen on the planet? _____

_____ By what process do they produce oxygen? _____

Gulf of Mexico Gallery



1. List two ways sharks might help people. _____

2. What kind of animal, called a "living fossil," has lived on Earth for 400 million years? _____
3. How many of the eight species of sea turtles are currently threatened or endangered? _____ Name three predators of a sea turtle *hatchling*.

4. Find the *Mola mola*. What record does it hold? _____

5. **Underwater Exploration:** Name and draw an animal that can be found in the deep sea.

List one interesting fact about it. _____

1. **The Weather Station:** Record these current weather conditions.

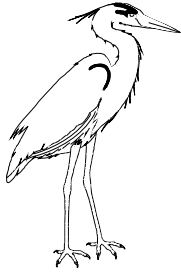
Air Temperature	_____	Wind Speed	_____
Water Temperature	_____	Wind Direction	_____
Dissolved Oxygen mg/L	_____	Salinity	_____

* Don't forget to include units of measure.

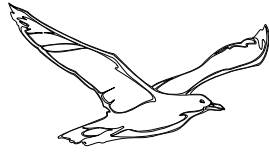


The Living Marsh Boardwalk

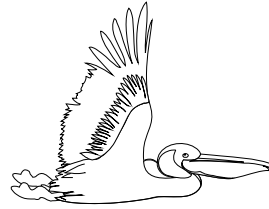
1. Circle the birds you observe while on the boardwalk.



Great Blue Heron



Sea Gull



Pelican



Egret

2. Look at the area of water and grass. What kind of ecosystem is this?

_____ What are two benefits of these ecosystems?

3. What helps stabilize sand grains, leading to the building of sand dunes?

How can we help sand dunes stay in place? _____

4. How do plants and butterflies benefit each other?

5. 90% of floating marine debris is what kind of material? _____

Explain one way marine debris harms wildlife. _____

Explain one way marine debris harms people. _____

Invertebrate Trail

In the space below, make a rubbing of your favorite invertebrate from the Invertebrate Trail.