

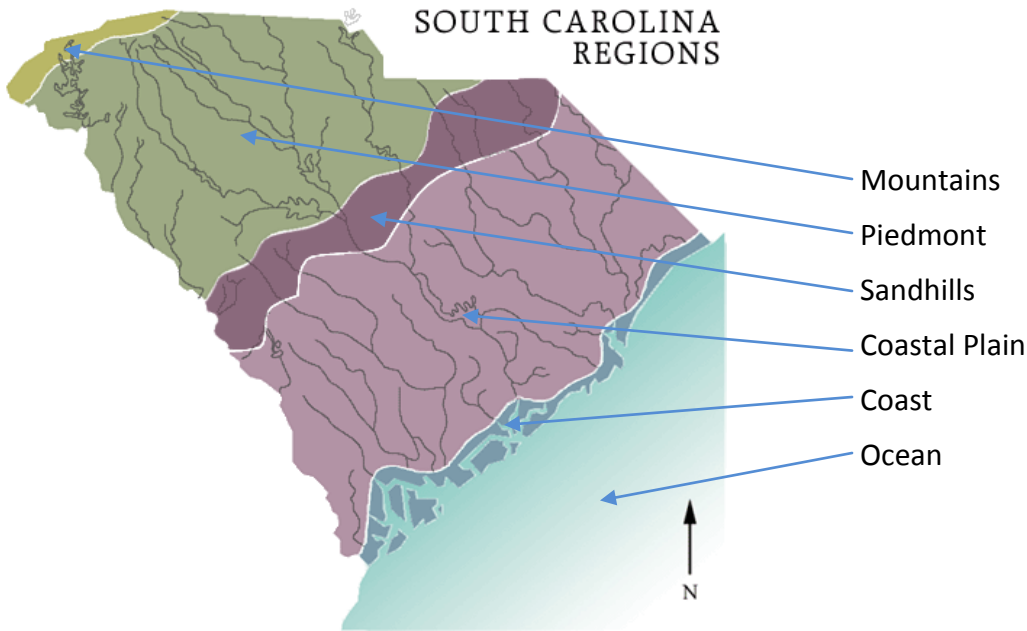
# South Carolina Aquarium

## 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Scavenger Hunt

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The South Carolina Aquarium is designed to show you the habitats of South Carolina from the Mountains to the Sea. Enjoy your journey through our state!

### The Great Hall



Draw a line from the name of each South Carolina region to the region's location on the map above.

What is the name of the ocean that borders South Carolina?

*The Atlantic Ocean.*

Draw a small circle on the map where your home is located. In what region do you live?

### The Mountains

#### **River Otter exhibit:**

Name 2 body parts or behaviors that river otters have to help them survive (adaptations):

- 1. Thick fur to keep warm in cold water, strong tail for swimming, sharp teeth to eat meat, whiskers to help find food, webbed feet to help swim, brown color for camouflage*
- 2. Could be many different answers. These are just a few.*



Are river otters producers or consumers? Explain your answer.

*River otters are consumers because they have a mouth and eat food for energy.*

### Piedmont

#### **Piedmont River exhibit:**

Why did scientists think that the Robust Redhorse was extinct?

*Habitat destruction caused a dramatic loss in population and these fish weren't seen by scientists for years.*

**Shifting Shorelines exhibit:**

After studying the shifting shorelines exhibit and watching the map change, explain why fossilized shark’s teeth can be found in the Coastal Plain region.

*65 million years ago the ocean covered the Coastal Plain. Shark that lived at that time left behind teeth. These fossilized teeth can be found throughout the Coastal Plain, Coast and Ocean.*

**Coastal Plain**

**Brownwater Swamp and Blackwater Swamp exhibits:**

What makes a Brownwater Swamp brown?	What makes a Blackwater Swamp black?
<i>Red clay sediment from the Piedmont being carried by rain water into the Coastal Plain swamps during the rainy season.</i>	<i>Tannins from tree leaves stain the water a darker color. The tannic acid from the leaves leech into the water as leaves fall in the swamps.</i>

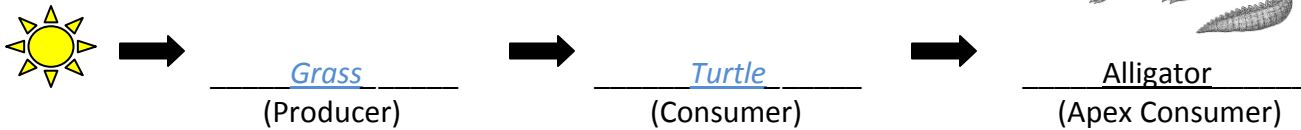
**Carolina Bay exhibit:**

Can you find an organism in this exhibit that is both a producer and a consumer? What is it and how can it be both a producer and consumer?

*Venus fly traps and/or pitcher plants. They produce food using the suns energy, but then also digest nutrients from the insects they eat.*

**Alligator exhibit:**

Create a Coastal Plain food chain by filling in the missing pieces.



**Saltmarsh**

Find one example of each of these groups. Draw a picture and name the organism.

<b>Vertebrate</b> (animal with a backbone)	<b>Invertebrate</b> (animal without a backbone)	<b>Plant</b>
<i>Bird, fish or turtle</i>	<i>Crab or oyster</i>	<i>Palmetto tree or marsh bush</i>

Name 2 functions of a saltmarsh.

- Nursery for juvenile fish, shrimp, crabs and other animals. Great place for juveniles to hide and get food.*
- Protective barrier between the ocean and the land. Protects houses, businesses and habitats.*
- Filters water to keep the water quality good for animals and plants.*
- Great food supply for animals.*

**Coast**

**Camouflage exhibit:**

Name one animal in this exhibit that uses camouflage. Why does it camouflage?

*Flounder, oyster toadfish and octopus camouflage to hide from predators and sneak up on prey.*

**Sea Turtle exhibit:**

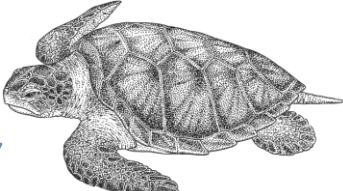
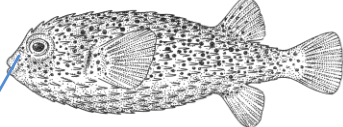
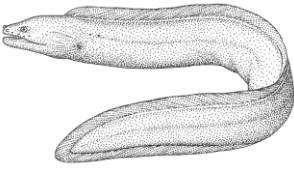
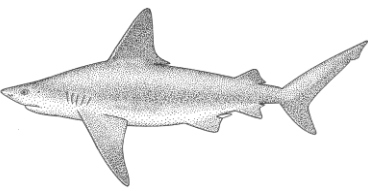
List 2 differences between sea turtles and freshwater turtles (revisit the Mt. Bog exhibit to see freshwater turtles).

1. *Sea turtles can grow much larger than freshwater turtles.*
2. *Sea turtles can't pull their arms, legs or head into their shell like freshwater turtles.*
3. *Sea turtles live in salt water (ocean), freshwater turtles live in fresh water (ponds, lakes, rivers,...)*

**Ocean**

**Great Ocean Tank exhibit:**

Draw a line to match the adaptation to the animal.

Adaptation	Animal
Body covered in slime so this animal can easily get in and out of the holes and crevices of rocks and reefs	 Loggerhead Sea Turtle
Predator with a forked shape tail that allows it to swim fast in the open ocean	 Porcupine Fish
This animal can triple its size to discourage predators	 Green Moray Eel
Large flippers and hard body help to protect this animal from predators	 Sandbar Shark

**Wrap-up**

Now that you have travelled through the state of South Carolina, list 3 things you can do to protect South Carolina habitats and the animals that live there.

1. *Recycle*
2. *Don't litter*
3. *Turn off beach front lights*
4. *Fill in holes and knock down sand castles when done at the beach*
5. *Eat sustainable seafood*
6. *Join a conservation organization*
7. *Change your light bulbs to low energy bulbs*
8. *Buy vehicles that get good gas mileage*
9. *Use canvas bags instead of plastic...and more...*