

# South Carolina Aquarium

## 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<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. Head up the escalator to start your journey through our state! This information is helpful:

- Answers for **page 1** are found in no certain order.
- Answers for **pages 2-4** can be found in order by starting in the mountains and walking to the sea.

### All Galleries

Match the following terms to the correct relationship and list the Aquarium exhibit in which it was the bold animal is found.

- A **Predation** – to eat another organism  
 B **Competition** – to fight for a resource  
 C **Parasitism** – when an organism lives on or in another organism at that organisms' expense  
 D **Mutualism** – when two organisms live together and both benefit  
 E **Commensalism** – when one organism benefits from another organism and the other doesn't benefit or suffer

<i>Place correct letter here</i>	<b>Description of relationship</b>	<b>Aquarium exhibit</b>
	Hermit crab anemones live on hermit crabs in order to find food and have a 'ride'. <b>Hermit crabs</b> don't mind at all because the anemone offers protection.	
	<b>River otters</b> prey on brook trout in mountain streams.	
	Some <b>horseshoe crabs</b> have slipper shells living on them. It does not harm the horseshoe crab, but the slipper shells have a safe home on the hard shell of the horseshoe crab.	
	Male <b>dollar sunfish</b> fight with fish in order to protect their gravel nest.	
	Tapeworms live inside a <b>sea turtle's</b> digestive system causing damage by stealing the turtle's nutrition.	
	<b>Porkfish</b> are cleaner fish. They eat old scales and debris off larger fish like a gag grouper. Gag grouper don't mind this because it keeps them healthy.	
	<b>Spiny lobsters</b> are territorial of their homes often aggressively guarding their homes from fish and other lobsters.	
	A <b>gopher tortoise</b> can dig a 30 foot burrow for shelter. Many other animals can hide in these burrows during forest fires and the tortoise will share the space.	

## The Mountains

### **Bald Eagle Exhibit:**

In 1967 bald eagle populations had declined because of DDT. What is DDT and how did it hurt the eagles?

What is bioaccumulation?

*Thinking question:* What can we learn from the DDT/eagle issue?

## Piedmont

### **Reservoir Exhibit:**

Name 2 pros and 2 cons of damming a river.

**Pro:** 1)

**Con:** 1)

2)

2)

### **Shifting Shorelines Map:**

How does the rotating map help explain how marine fossils can be found in the Coastal Plain and terrestrial fossils can be found 20 miles off the coast?

*Thinking question:* What could happen to South Carolina if sea level rises in the next 50 years? Will you personally be affected?

## Coastal Plain

### **Swamp IQ Test:**

List 2 reasons why swamps are vital ecosystems in South Carolina.

1.

2.

### **Carolina Bay Exhibit:**

Why are carnivorous plants found in Carolina Bays and no other habitat in South Carolina?

## Saltmarsh

Name 2 functions of a saltmarsh.

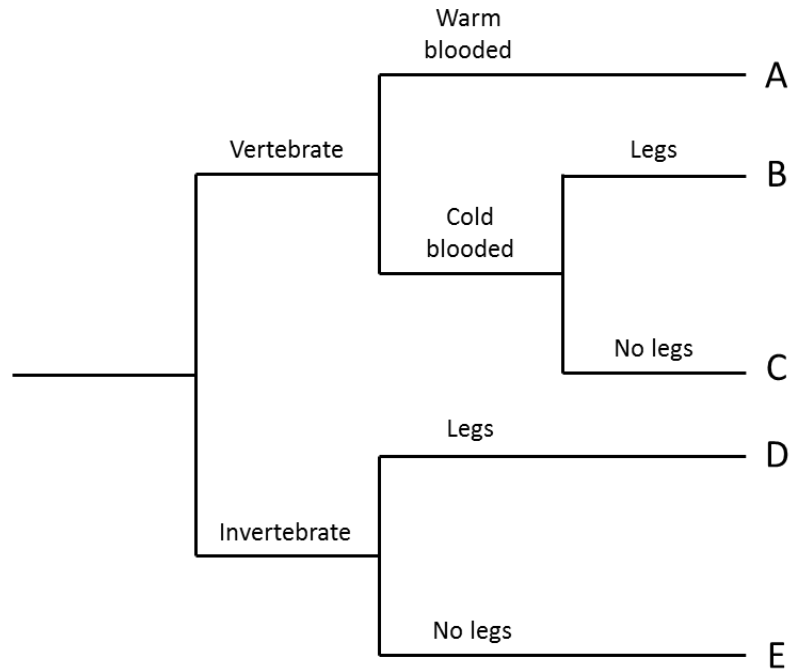
1.

2.

Thinking question: What would happen to South Carolina's coast if our saltmarshes were destroyed?

A phylogenetic tree shows the relationships between biological species based on their similarities and differences. Place the correct letter from the tree next to each saltmarsh animal.

- \_\_\_ Diamondback terrapin
- \_\_\_ Oyster
- \_\_\_ White ibis
- \_\_\_ Blue crab
- \_\_\_ Mullet



## Coast

### *Aquatic Invaders Exhibit*

Lionfish are invaders. Even though they are beautiful, they should not be in the waters of South Carolina. Explain why they are such a problem.

What can be done to help the problem?

### *Balanced Ocean Exhibit*

Why should you "Ask Before You Order?"

## Ocean

### *Phytoplankton*

Using the phytoplankton touch screen, describe one phytoplankton that is harmful to humans and one that is helpful.

**Harmful:**

**Helpful:**

**Great Ocean Tank**

The IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) lists animals based on their conservation status. Use the touch screens at the Great Ocean Tank to find three animals for each of these conservation statuses:

**Near Threatened (NT):**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Vulnerable (VU):**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Thinking question:* How is this information helpful to humans?

**Lower Ocean Gallery**

In South Carolina, the ocean floor gets deeper from Blackfish Banks to the Coral Mounds. Fill out the table below by looking in all the tanks and reading the signs of the Lower Ocean Gallery.

Habitat Name	Ocean Depth (feet)	List one fish
Blackfish Banks	60 ft	
Snapper Banks		
Rocky Reef		
Muddy Ooze		Short bigeye
Coral Mounds	3,000 ft	

**Zucker Family Sea Turtle Recovery**

There are 7 sea turtle species in the world. 4 of those 7 live off the coast of South Carolina. Match the sea turtle species to the correct fact.

Sea Turtle Species

- Green Sea Turtle
- Kemp’s Ridley Sea Turtle
- Leatherback Sea Turtle
- Loggerhead Sea Turtle

Sea Turtle Fact

- Most endangered sea turtle in the world
- Most common nesting sea turtle in SC
- Only sea turtle that eats sea grasses
- Largest sea turtle in the world

List 2 ways humans can harm sea turtle populations	List 2 things humans can do to protect sea turtles
1.	1.
2.	2.