

Selfie Scavenger Hunt

Are you good at taking selfies? How about taking them with animals? As you explore the Aquarium, use the following clues to find the animal, plant, or ecosystem being described. Once you find the answer, take a picture (a selfie) of you and the answer to PROVE you found it. Happy clicking!

1. Where the Ashley, Cooper, and Wando meet
You sometimes see dolphins, although discrete
2. My cousin the shark is cartilaginous like me
You can find me *outside*, right next to the sea
3. My body is blue, a black crown on my head
Got a saintly royal name, algae is what I am fed
4. As a shade-tolerant evergreen tree,
I provide shelter with branches and leafy debris
5. You see me on quarters, in the sky or a tree
No longer endangered, soaring in the land of the free
6. My fur is dense and I have big webbed-feet
You won't find me in the ocean, freshwater is where I eat
7. Thought to be extinct due to habitat loss,
Rediscovered in Georgia, cause assumptions were false
8. I am a long slender fish with a sword-like snout
I prefer freshwater, when I swim about
9. In this habitat, water can look mucky,
But it is really leaf tannins, which make it look yucky
10. Without camouflage, it is tough to hunt and hide
The Aquarium is my home, so I won't sunburn outside
11. Water I grow in takes nutrients I need,
I capture bugs in pitchers and grow from a seed
12. My broad front legs help shelter construction,
Now I am endangered due to habitat destruction
13. I like to use my rattle to distract and protect,
And when I feel threatened, my venom I inject
14. I have a curved red bill, I use to search for prey
White wings and body help me fly over the bay
15. My oversized bill helps me scoop up fish
The ban of DDT helped my species flourish
16. Diamond-shaped scutes line the top of my shell
My strong webbed-feet help me swim and propel
17. I am plentiful of plants and change with the tide
I have brackish water for animals to reside
18. I have five rigid arms with eyes on each end
I can be found in a tide pool where I blend
19. Got a long "horsy" snout, armor to protect
Only males have babies and I swim erect
20. I am a venomous fish, with red and gold stripes
Invasive to our water, I can be eaten fried and diced
21. I am a transparent invert, plankton is what I eat
For protection I have stinging cells that I excrete
22. As a microscopic organism floating in the sea
The marine food web would be broken without me
23. I am the state reptile with a log-like head
Ectothermic and my shell is brownish-red
24. My body is covered in spines lying flat
I puff when I am scared to look big and fat
25. You might see me dwelling on the ocean floor
I can breathe without moving if I don't want to explore
26. With very sharp teeth and the gift of speed
I am an opportunistic predator when I feed

27. I am a nocturnal animal, I like to show my teeth
Even though I look green, I am brown underneath
(yellow mucus)
28. I am the largest hard-shelled sea turtle around
The only herbivore sea turtle to be found
29. The most endangered turtle in the sea
I am the smallest sea turtle Carolinians see
30. We hitch a ride on turtles for food
If the turtle needs care, we can be a clue

Discussion:

- What was your favorite animal? Why?
- After visiting the South Carolina Aquarium, do think the physical components of an ecosystem can be man-made? How are the fabricated abiotic components for the biological communities able to support and sustain life?
- How does learning about the local ecosystems lead to conservation?
- Do you feel inspired to help an animal species you saw today? What can you do to help this animal species?