



4th Grade Scavenger Hunt

Match the organism found in the aquarium with the correct adaptations. A word bank has been provided, but other answers may be accepted.

In the Freshwater Conservatory:

_____ 1. I have scales to protect my skin, claws on my toes, and a powerful tail to swim in the water.

_____ 2. For a fish, I'm an excellent hunter! With my razor sharp teeth, I can catch lots of food. My eggs are toxic to other animals.

_____ 3. My name comes from the white lining in my mouth. I flash this color to warn others of my venomous bite.

_____ 4. I am one of our national symbols. My species was once endangered, but because caring people came together to conserve our species, we have made full recovery.

_____ 5. I have special pads on my toes to climb trees and I'm sometimes hard find as I camouflage with my surroundings. At night I talk to others of my kind so we can find each other in the dark.

In the Coastal Waters Gallery:

_____ 6. I have five arms--and if I lose one, it will eventually grow back.

_____ 7. I have flippers, instead of feet, because most of my life is spent out at sea. I also have a streamlined shell that helps me glide through the water.

_____ 8. I have one big claw to attract females. My eyes are set on stalks so I can see 360°.

_____ 9. I have gills and like to swim in the salt water. I have whiskers (barbells) on my chin to find food on the bottom. I also have black stripes to break up my shape to predators.

In Cape Fear Shoals:

_____ 10. I look like a snake, but I'm really a fish! My skin is actually blue in color, but yellow slime makes my skin look green.

_____ 11. I am the logo fish for the NC Aquariums and I can be seen in schools in the Cape Fear Shoals.



_____ 12. My fins look like bat wings. They help me glide gracefully over the bottom of the sea floor. But watch out--if you accidentally step on me, you'll get a stinging surprise!

_____ 13. I replace my teeth as long as I live. My top fin is often visible when I'm hunting, but its main purpose is to keep me upright when I'm swimming.

In the Ocean Gallery:

_____ 14. I'm found in deep waters of the Atlantic Ocean and have very large eyes. Please do not take flash photos of me as I am sensitive to bright lights.

_____ 15. I don't have bones, a heart, or a brain, but I do have to eat! To do so, I use my sticky stinging tentacles.

_____ 16. I'm a very large fish and I have made my home in a model of a shipwreck. Even though I am large, I am not full size and my species is in trouble. Can you help?

In Exotic Aquatic:

_____ 17. I have venom stored in my spines that is toxic, even to humans.

_____ 18. I am able to change color to blend in with my background. I share my exhibit with other animals in the same Family

_____ 19. I wear a suit of "armor" at all times and have strong, shredding mouthpart to help me eat dead stuff along the ocean floor.

_____ 20. I have tiny whiskers hanging from my mouth and I love to munch on crabs and clams in the sand. I don't like to munch on fingers, but still be gentle when give my back a rub.

Adaptation Scavenger Hunt Word Bank

American Alligator

Tree Frog

Black Drum

Loggerhead Sea Turtle

Southern Stingray

Seahorse

Goliath Grouper

Moon Jelly

Short Bigeye

Lion Fish

Fiddler Crab

Sea Star

Cottonmouth

Green Moray Eel

Spiny Lobster

Bald Eagle

Spadefish

Shark

Long nosed Gar

Bamboo Shark



Answers for teachers:

1. American Alligator
2. Longnose Gar
3. Cotton Mouth
4. Bald Eagle
5. Tree Frog
6. Seastar
7. Loggerhead Sea Turtle
8. Fiddler Crab
9. Black Drum
10. Green Moray Eel
11. Spadefish
12. Southern Stingray
13. Shark
14. Short Big Eye
15. Moon Jelly
16. Goliath Grouper
17. Lion Fish
18. Seahorse
19. Spiny Lobster
20. Bamboo shark

Note: These are the preferred answers from our graphic panels, but other animals may have similar adaptations.