



8th Grade Scavenger Hunt

1. The exhibits in the Conservatory building represent regions of a NC river.

Which river? _____

Where does the water from this river come from? _____

Where does the water from this river end up? _____

2. Luna the albino alligator is white because of a genetic trait called *albinism*. Animals, including humans, can exhibit this genetic trait. How does an animal come to be albino? What challenges might Luna encounter if she lived in the wild?



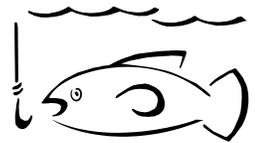
Albinism- a genetic disorder resulting in the complete absence of pigment in the skin and eyes

3. Place one of the listed animals seen in the Conservatory in each box to correctly show who eats what in the Cape Fear River area:



4. The Buzzard's Bay exhibit on the 2nd floor of the Marine Building represents a salt marsh, which is a type of estuary. Estuaries are areas where rivers meet the ocean. Why are estuaries important?

5. What are some threats to estuary health? List two things people can do to help maintain or improve estuary health.



6. The Touch Tank on the 2nd floor of the Marine Building represents a coquina outcrop. Describe the physical conditions of this type of environment.



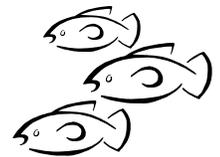
7. What is your favorite animal in the Touch Tank? Describe that animal and how its physical characteristics help it live in a coquina outcrop.

8. The fish in the Cape Fear Shoals exhibit in the Marine Building (the BIG tank) need certain things to stay alive and healthy. What are some of those things? Why do you think we limit the number of fish we put in each exhibit?

9. The Cape Fear Ledge exhibit in the Ocean Gallery on the 1st floor of the Marine Building is one of two exhibits in the Aquarium with live coral. Corals use calcium in the water to build strong skeletons made of calcium carbonate. When there is too much carbon dioxide in the ocean, it is difficult for corals to build their skeleton. Where does carbon dioxide come from?

10. Find the Megalodon jaws on the 1st floor of the Marine Building and look at the teeth. Megalodon was the largest shark to ever live, measuring sixty feet in length. What animal is their closest living relative? Megalodon's teeth were up to seven inches long. What did this shark eat?

11. Look closely at the animals in the Poison Dart Frog exhibit in the Exotic Aquatics gallery on the 1st floor of the Marine Building. Poison dart frogs are very showy and interesting-looking animals. These animals also have toxic venom. How do you think their flashy appearance helps them in the wild?



12. What is your favorite part of the aquarium and why?

13. Name one thing you can do to help the ocean be a healthy environment for animals and plants and explain why it would help.