

**NORTH • CAROLINA  
AQUARIUM**

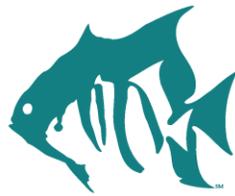
at Fort Fisher

900 Loggerhead Road, Kure Beach, NC 28449 • [www.ncaquariums.com/fort-fisher](http://www.ncaquariums.com/fort-fisher)

Phone: (910) 772-0500 • Fax: (910) 458-6812

## NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher Scavenger Hunts – NC Essential Standards Covered

Grade	Standards Covered	What to Look for at the Aquarium
Kindergarten	K.P.1 Understand the positions and motions of objects and organisms observed in the environment.	- Observe how different animals move (swim, crawl, fly) (Entire Aquarium)
	K.L.1 Compare characteristics of animals that make them alike and different from other animals and nonliving things.	- Note similarities and differences among various animals (land vs sea turtle, different kinds of fish) (Entire Aquarium)
1 <sup>st</sup>	1.L.1 Understand characteristics of various environments and behaviors of humans that enable plants and animals to survive.	- Describe and draw different exhibits/environments found within the Aquarium (Entire Aquarium)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.L.1 Understand animal life cycles.	- Learn about the sea turtle life cycle (Loggerhead Sea Turtle Exhibit)
	2.L.2 Remember that organisms differ from or are similar to their parents based on the characteristics of the organism	- Search for juvenile vs adult animals of the same species in the Aquarium (Buzzards Bay Exhibit houses juveniles)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3.E.2.1 Compare Earth's saltwater and freshwater features (including oceans, seas, rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, and glaciers).	- Observe the different exhibit areas of the Aquarium, which represent different kinds of environments (Entire Aquarium: Freshwater Conservatory & Marine/Salt Water Building)
	3.L.2 Understand how plants survive in their environments	- Look for and describe the characteristics of different plants (Conservatory and Gardens)
4 <sup>th</sup>	4.L.1 Understand the effects of environmental changes, adaptations and behaviors that enable animals (including humans) to survive in changing habitats.	- Look for adaptations different aquatic animals have to help them survive (camouflage, sharp teeth, fins, gills, tentacles) (Entire Aquarium)
5 <sup>th</sup>	5.L.2 Understand the interdependence of plants and animals with their ecosystem.	- Observe and compare the different ecosystems represented throughout the Aquarium, including estuaries, salt marshes, and the ocean (entire Aquarium)
	5.L.3 Understand why organisms differ from or are similar to their parents based on the characteristics of the organism.	- Infer how plants and animals are related to one another (entire Aquarium)  - Find Luna, our albino alligator, and discuss why she looks different than her green alligator parents (Alligator exhibit)



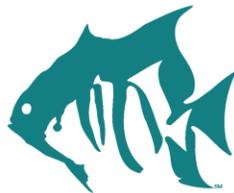
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6 <sup>th</sup>	6.L.2 Understand the flow of energy through ecosystems and the responses of populations to the biotic and abiotic factors in their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Learn about food webs in the Cape Fear River and Atlantic ocean and find out what animals eat. (Entire Aquarium)</li> <li>- Think about what abiotic factors affect animals</li> </ul>
7 <sup>th</sup>	<p>7.L.1 Understand the processes, structures and functions of living organisms that enable them to survive, reproduce and carry out the basic functions of life.</p> <p>7.L.2 Understand the relationship of the mechanisms of cellular reproduction, patterns of inheritance and external factors to potential variation among offspring.</p> <p>7.E.1.4 Predict weather conditions and patterns based on information obtained from: - Weather data collected from direct observations and measurement (wind speed and direction, air temperature, humidity and air pressure) - Weather maps, satellites and radar - Cloud shapes and types and associated elevation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Look for adaptation aquatic animals have that allow them to live in certain environments (fins, gills, teeth) and learn about what and how they eat (Entire Aquarium)</li> <li>- Learn about Luna, our albino alligator, and how albinism is a genetic condition (Alligator Exhibit)</li> <li>- Find out about weather prediction technology that NASA and NOAA use to predict hurricanes (Hurricane Exhibit)</li> </ul>
8 <sup>th</sup>	<p>8.P.2 Explain the environmental implications associated with the various methods of obtaining, managing, and using energy resources.</p> <p>8.E.1.1 Explain the structure of the hydrosphere including: - Water distribution on earth - Local river basins and water availability</p> <p>8.L.3.1 Explain how factors such as food, water, shelter and space affect populations in an ecosystem.</p> <p>8.L.4.2 Explain the relationship between genetic variation and an organism's ability to adapt to its environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Look for live coral in the Aquarium and learn about how using energy can affect the ocean and coral reef habitats (Sharktooth Ledge and Cape Fear Ledge Exhibits)</li> <li>- Take a journey down the Cape Fear River (Freshwater Conservatory) all the way to the Atlantic Ocean (Marine Building)</li> <li>- Observe different habitats within the Aquarium and learn about the food our animals eat (Entire Aquarium)</li> <li>- Learn about Luna, our albino alligator, and think about whether she would survive easily in the wild (Alligator Exhibit)</li> </ul>



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<p>High School (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>)</p>	<p><b>Biology</b> Bio.2.1.3 Explain various ways organisms interact with each other (including predation, competition, parasitism, mutualism) and with their environments resulting in stability within ecosystems.</p> <p>Bio.2.2 Understand the impact of human activities on the environment (one generation affects the next).</p> <p>Bio.3.2.2 Predict offspring ratios based on a variety of inheritance patterns (including dominance, co-dominance, incomplete dominance, multiple alleles, and sex-linked traits).</p> <p><b>Earth &amp; Environmental Science</b> EEn.2.4 Evaluate how humans use water</p> <p>EEn.2.6 Analyze patterns of global climate change over time.</p> <p>EEn.2.7.2 Explain why biodiversity is important to the biosphere.</p> <p>EEn.2.8 Evaluate human behaviors in terms of how likely they are to ensure the ability to live sustainably on Earth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Look for predator/prey relationships throughout the Aquarium and think about why we might separate certain animals in different exhibits (entire Aquarium)</li> <li>- Look at our wall of trash near our Loggerhead Sea Turtle exhibit and discuss how human activities can impact marine life (Loggerhead Sea Turtle exhibit)</li> <li>- Find the exhibits with live coral and learn about how human activities can impact coral reef habitats (Cape Fear Ledge &amp; Pacific Coral Reef)</li> <li>- Observe Luna, our albino alligator, and determine the probability she had of being albino. (Alligator Exhibit)</li> <li>- Walk through our Conservatory, which represents the Cape Fear River, where we get our drinking water (Freshwater Conservatory)</li> <li>- Touch animals in our touch tank, which represents a local coquina outcrop, that is only visible at low tide due to changes in sea level height</li> <li>- Look for invasive species throughout the Aquarium, including the lionfish, and discuss their effect on native populations of fish</li> <li>- Think about water sources, uses, and pollution as you tour the Aquarium. Look for species that have been overfished (sturgeons, sharks). Discuss ways humans can decrease their carbon footprint.</li> </ul>
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