

11am Dive Show: "Who Am I?"

Nurse Shark, Loggerhead Sea Turtle, Barrel Sponge, Queen Triggerfish

****A few notes to the educator:**

- This show requires the computer and projector so be sure to give yourself enough time to set everything up. Click through the ppt's sample slides to make sure everything is working properly. Stay on the "WHO AM I" slide to welcome the audience.
- Also be sure to watch the time on this dive show, some audiences will get the animal on the second clue and can go through all 4 animals, while other audiences may only get through 2 animals. That's ok, read your audience and fill in where you need to with info from a basic dive show or wrap up after the second animal if needed. The talking portion of the show should be around 15 minutes so the diver can have a few minutes for pictures with guests!

Intro: Introduce yourself as an Educator at the South Carolina Aquarium and get to know your audience. First time visitors? Members? Bring out and introduce the fish expert, your diver!

Educator:

Alright who is ready to play the game 'Who Am I'?? The goal of this game is to guess the mystery animals. Each animal has four clues to help you guess plus with each clue I will show a few puzzle pieces that in the end will reveal the mystery animal. After each clue and puzzle piece is given a volunteer will try to guess the animal and our 'Fish expert', the diver, will let us know if we are right or need the next clue.

Educator: To help demonstrate how the game works, our fish expert will be the first volunteer! Ready? Your first clue (educator advances ppt) is that *this animal is an air breather.*

Diver: Sea turtle

Educator: Nope, here is our next clue: *this animal has human-like teeth.*

Diver: sheepshead

Educator: No, here is our last clue: *this animal can walk on land and sounds like darth vader when under water.*

Diver: Wait, is this animal me???

Educator: Yes!! You are right! Great work! Thanks for showing how this game works. Now we need to choose our volunteers and we will do this with the help of a beach ball.

Here are the rules:

- If you want to catch the ball, raise your hands up high (jellyfish hands)
- If you do not want to catch the ball, do a drumroll on your laps (or make a turtle)
- If you catch the ball you can give one guess and after you guess, gently toss the ball back into the crowd to get another volunteer (if it is a rowdy crowd, you can get the ball back after each guess to control the toss intensity)

- Ground rules: NO RUNNING, stay seated, get your thinking caps on! (Have them repeat it with you?)

Educator: Ok let's get ready to start! Remember we have a few mystery animals that we need to solve with the help of trivia statements and puzzle pictures

Diver: Before we start, I will give you one clue! All these animals like to live in an MPA. (Educator's name) why don't you explain what an MPA is!

Educator: Sure thing! Think of an MPA as a State or National Park in or by the water. An MPA is Marine Protected Area that is protected by different levels of government. There are more than a thousand MPAs in US waters! The closest one is our next door neighbor, Fort Sumter, since it is a Marine National Monument! Some MPAs protect reefs which provide shelter to marine wildlife. The SCA divers are actually conducting research to see what kinds of fish live in two MPAs 35 miles off our coast! How cool!!

Now let's start to learn about the animals that live in an MPA! Remember all four clues are for one animal, if we guess that animal then we will move on to another one!

toss ball into crowd

Nurse Shark Questions

1. *This animal lives on the ocean floor*
2. *This animal has funny looking barbels by its mouth to help it finds its food.*
3. *This animal's skeleton is made up of cartilage!*
4. *This animal has rows and rows of teeth and its skin is covered by dermal denticles!*

Q1:

Educator: You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal lives on the ocean floor?? Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??*

Diver: Unfortunately not, this mystery animal even likes to sleep at the bottom of our 42' tank! I think the next clue is needed!

Q2:

Educator: ok, let's continue! Gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal has funny looking barbels by its mouth to help it finds its food. Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??*

Diver: Good guess but it's not that one either!

Educator: But speaking of finding food- I'm sure a lot of people are wondering how come our animals in the tank don't eat each other. Can you briefly explain how we feed the animals?

Diver: Sure thing! It is all about distraction and diversion so while one group of animals are being fed another group will also be fed at the same time but with a different method: like target feeding the reef fish with chum buckets while we broadcast feed at the top of the tank!

Educator: That sounds like a pretty well thought out plan! Alright, who is ready for the next clue??

Q3:

Educator: Gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal's skeleton is made up of cartilage!* guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: A sting-ray is related to this animals but it isn't a sting-ray, good guess though!

Q4:

Educator: We are so close, one last clue and I think it will give it away: *This animal has rows and rows of teeth and its skin is covered by dermal denticles!* (don't advance the ppt until they get the correct answer and then reveal the complete image!) *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: That is right!! This mystery animal is a nurse shark! We have two nurse sharks in the GOT!

Educator: Nurse sharks are docile sharks and can be found in MPAs by a reef structure which is why they love hanging out in our reef and cave system in the GOT. The slanted window around the corner is a great spot to view the two nurse sharks as they rest on the bottom.

Loggerhead Sea Turtle Questions

Great work! Who is ready for the next mystery animal? *toss ball into crowd*

1. *This animal likes to eat crunchy things like whelks and crabs*
2. *This animal is good at navigating the open ocean!*
3. *This animal can be found in the moonlight laying eggs on the beaches of SC from May-August!*
4. *This animal is the South Carolina state reptile!*

Q1:

Educator: You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal likes to eat crunchy things like whelks and crabs.* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right.

Diver: Good guess, but it's not that! Think of an animal that has a strong neck and head to crunch on hard shelled food.

Q2:

Educator: Ok, gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal is good at navigating the open ocean!* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Great guess, but that is not this mystery animal!

Q3:

Educator: Ok, gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal can be found in the moonlight laying eggs on the beaches of SC from May-August!* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Nope, it isn't that one either! Let's move on to our last clue!

Q4:

Educator: We are so close, one last clue and I think it will give it away: *This animal is the South Carolina state reptile!* (don't advance the ppt until they get the correct answer and the diver confirms they are right then reveal the complete image!) *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: That is right!! This mystery animal is a loggerhead sea turtle! We have 1 loggerhead sea turtle in the GOT!

Educator: She definitely is one of the crowd's favorite and at 220 pounds she is one of the largest animals in the tank. Caretta is our resident sea turtle, which means she is not allowed to be released since she was raised under human care *feel free to talk about caretta's story

Barrel Sponge

Great work! Who is ready for the next mystery animal? *toss ball into crowd*

1. *This animal cannot move, it is sessile*
2. *This animal is often mistaken for a plant but it is the simplest type of animal*
3. *This animal provides shelter for many reef animals.*
4. *This animal shares its name with a kitchen cleaning utensil and a famous cartoon character who lives in a pineapple under the sea*

Q1:

Educator: You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal cannot move, it is sessile* That was a hard clue, any guesses?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Good guess, but it's not that! This mystery animal is a tricky one if I do so say so myself!!

Q2:

Educator: Ok, let's get our next clue, gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal is often mistaken for a plant but it is the simplest type of animal.* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Good guess, but let's get another clue!

Q3:

Educator: Ok, let's get our next clue, gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal provides shelter for many reef animals.* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Good guess, but let's get another clue!

Q4:

Educator: We are so close, one last clue and I think it will give it away: *This animal shares its name with a kitchen cleaning utensil and a famous cartoon character who lives in a pineapple under the sea* (don't advance the ppt until they get the correct answer and the diver confirms they are right then reveal the complete image!) *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: That is right!! This mystery animal is a sponge!! And actually right next to me is an example of a barrel sponge! But this isn't a real sponge, it is made out of gunnate, a material similar to pool concrete.

Educator: Pretty crazy to think those sponges are animals too! But what is interesting is that when there are sponges in a reef area that means the water quality is high and can support other reef animals as well! And after the show check out this fake barrel sponge that shows how it is a good shelter for small reef animals!

Morey Eel

Great work! Who is ready for the next mystery animal? *toss ball into crowd*

1. *This animal is a mouth breather and has to open its mouth with each breath it takes..*
2. *This animal is nocturnal and here in the GOT has a private dining room where she can eat in peace at night.*
3. *This animal has two sets of jaws!*
4. *This animal is long, skinny, green and can swim backwards!*

Q1:

Educator: You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal is a mouth breather and has to open its mouth with each breath it takes..* Any guesses?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Good guess, but it's not that! This mystery animal is a tricky one, but keep your eyes peeled, you may see it swim by me!

Q2:

Educator: Ok, let's get our next clue, gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal is nocturnal and here in the GOT has a private dining room where she can eat in peace at night.* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Good guess, but let's get another clue!

Q3:

Educator: Ok, let's get our next clue, gently toss the ball up into the crowd to get another volunteer. Great job! You caught the ball so here is your clue and puzzle pieces (advance ppt): *This animal has two sets of jaws!* Any guesses from that clue?? *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: Good guess, but let's get another clue!

Q4:

Educator: We are so close, one last clue and I think it will give it away: *This animal is long, skinny, green and can swim backwards!* (don't advance the ppt until they get the correct answer and the diver confirms they are right then reveal the complete image!) *volunteer guesses* Diver is that right??

Diver: That is right!! This mystery animal is the green morey eel!! Usually she hangs out right in front or sleeps in the barrel sponge.

Educator: Morey eels also love reefs and are especially good at hiding in the small cracks and crevices. They hunt at night looking for small reef fish and are important for a healthy reef ecosystem!

Conclusion

Educator: Thank you for joining us for the "Who Am I?" dive show. Your Support not only helps take care of over 4,000 animals that call the aquarium home, but also help us fund conservation projects like our research in the MPA's.

Diver: The Marine Protected Areas off the coast of South Carolina are really important for maintaining wild, healthy fish populations in the future! So thanks for your support!

Educator: If you have more questions or need more info about MPA's please come and ask me at the end of the show. (Let the audience know there will be a Turtle Talk in ZFSTR at 11:30pm) Thanks for coming!