

South Carolina Aquarium

9th – 12th Grade Scavenger Hunt

Name _____

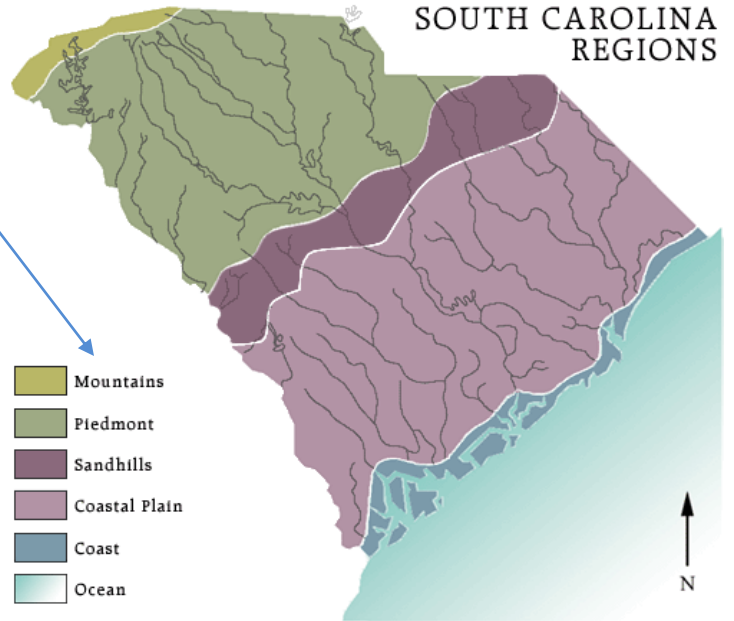
The South Carolina Aquarium is designed to show you the habitats of South Carolina from the Mountains to the Sea. Enjoy your journey through our state!

The Great Hall

Write the name of each South Carolina region on the map.

What is the name of the ocean that borders South Carolina?

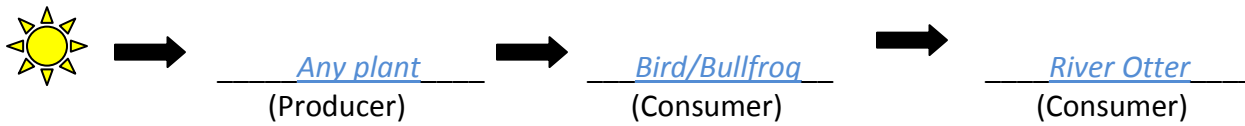
The Atlantic Ocean



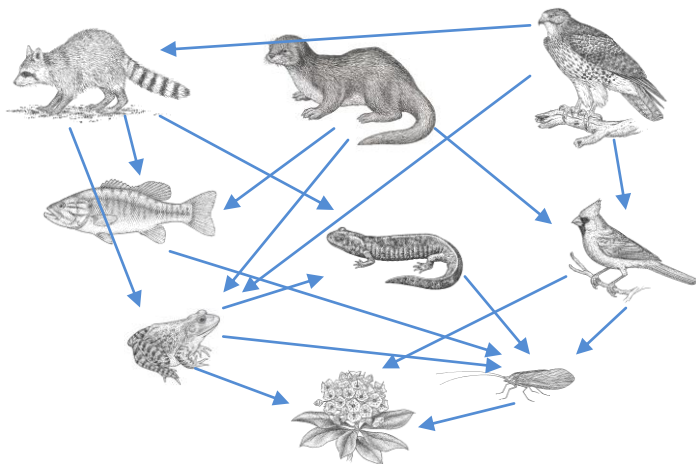
The Mountains

Mountain Forest exhibit:

Make a mountain food chain using the animals you see in the Mountain Forest exhibit.



Use arrows to create a mountain food web.



What is the difference between a food chain and a food web?

A food chain looks at how food energy is passed through a system. A food web focuses on who eats who.

Piedmont

Reservoir exhibit:

Name 2 pros and 2 cons of damming a river.

Pro: *Flood control, fishing, boating, recreation, irrigation*

Con: *Disturbs river flow and animal migration, habitat destruction, changes landscape*

Shifting Shorelines map:

How does the rotating map help explain how marine fossils can be found in the Coastal Plain while terrestrial fossils can be found 20 miles off the coast?

The map shows how over history the shoreline has moved because of climate change. A changing shoreline is going to change the animals that live in that area. Land once covered by water will leave behind aquatic animal fossils where as land cover by water that was once not covered by water would leave behind land animal fossils.

What could happen to South Carolina if sea level rises in the next 50 years? Will you be affected?

Our coastline could change and move inland causing many places to be covered in water.

Coastal Plain

Swamp IQ test:

List 2 reasons why swamps are vital ecosystems in South Carolina.

- 1. Great habitat for animals and plants.*
- 2. Filters water to help get rid of pollutants*
- 3. Help control flooding.*

Carolina Bay exhibit:

Why are carnivorous plants found in Carolina Bays and no other habitat in South Carolina?

Carnivorous plants live in areas where the nutrient level in the soil is low. These plants get nutrients by digesting insects.

Saltmarsh

Name 2 functions of a saltmarsh.

- 1. Nursery for juvenile fish, shrimp, crabs and other animals. Great place for juveniles to hide and get food.*
- 2. Protective barrier between the ocean and the land. Protects houses, businesses and habitats.*
- 3. Filters water to keep the water quality good for animals and plants.*
- 4. Great food supply for animals.*

What would happen to South Carolina's coast if our saltmarshes were destroyed by development?

The coastline would not be protected during hurricanes and storms causing habitat destruction.

Coast

Sea Turtle exhibit and interactives:

List 3 ways humans can harm sea turtle populations	List 3 things humans can do to protect sea turtles
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Littering</i><i>2. Leaving behind beach chairs, umbrellas,...</i><i>3. Keeping beach front lights on at night</i><i>4. Not knocking down sand castles or filling in holes when they leave the beach</i><i>5. Hitting them with boats</i><i>6. Letting balloons go in the air</i><i>7. Leaving behind old fishing/crabbing gear</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Don't litter</i><i>2. Leave no trace (always take home what you bring with you)</i><i>3. Turn off beach front lights at night</i><i>4. Knock down castles and fill in holes on beach</i><i>5. Be careful in boats</i><i>6. Don't release balloons into the air</i><i>7. Use canvas bags instead of plastic</i><i>8. Use circle hooks when fishing (not J hooks)</i>

Ocean

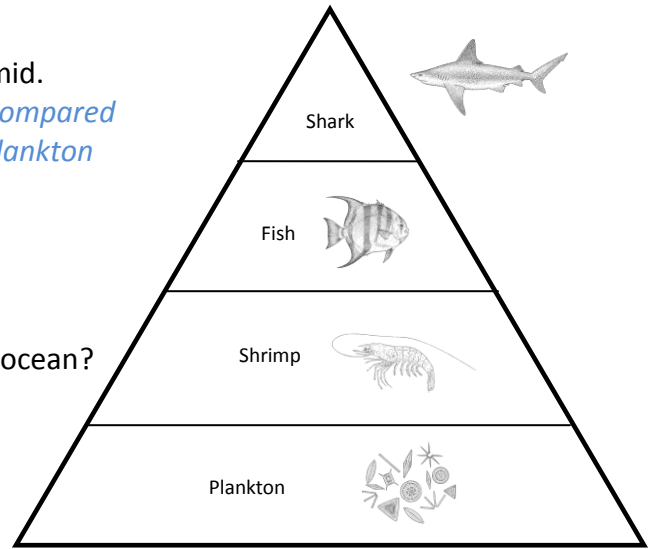
Use the diagram on the right:

Describe the diagram if it represents an ocean **energy** pyramid.

There is more food energy at the base of the food pyramid compared to the top of the pyramid. This means that it takes a lot of plankton to sustain shark populations.

How can humans negatively affect the balance of life in the ocean?

By overfishing we skew the pyramid and make it hard for animals to find enough food for survival.



All Galleries

Match the following terms to the correct relationship and list the Aquarium exhibit in which it was found (one term will not be used).

- A **Predation** – to eat another organism
- B **Competition** – to fight for a resource
- C **Parasitism** – when an organism lives on or in another organism at that organisms’ expense
- D **Mutualism** – when two organisms live together and both benefit
- E **Commensalism** – when one organism benefits from another organism and the other doesn’t benefit or suffer

Place correct letter here	Description of relationship	Aquarium exhibit
D	Hermit crab anemones live on hermit crabs in order to find food and have a ‘ride’. Hermit crabs don’t mind at all because the anemone offers protection.	<i>Touch Tank exhibit</i>
A	River otters prey on brook trout in mountain streams.	<i>Mountain Forest gallery</i>
B	Male dollar sunfish fight with fish in order to protect their gravel nest.	<i>Brownwater/Blackwater Swamp Exhibits in the Coastal Plain</i>
E	Some horseshoe crabs have slipper shells living on them. It does not harm the horseshoe crab, but the slipper shells have a safe home on the hard shell of the horseshoe crab.	<i>Touch Tank exhibit</i>

What will you do today that will help the environment?

Recycle, use a canvas bag instead of plastic, pick up trash that you find on the ground, turn out the lights when you leave a room, use less water when you brush your teeth, take a shorter shower, eat sustainable food, eat local foods,...