3rd – 5th Grade Activity

Before the Delta

1. How long ago did mosasaurs live on earth?

Mobile Delta Gallery

1. Are the animals in the Mobile Delta gallery living in fresh water or salt water?

2. Amphibians and reptiles are ectothermic (cold blooded). What does this mean?

Name one amphibian that is not a frog, found in this gallery.

3. Name two plants growing in Alabama that might eat animals.

What are two major threats to the long-term survival of the bogs these plants live in?

4. Name and draw the King of the Delta. Why is it called the King of the Delta?

5. What insect can you find in the Mobile Delta that is an invasive species?
Mobile Bay Gallery

1. In the largest tank in this gallery, find the fish with a “beard” (more technically known as barbels, which taste). What kind of fish is it? *Hint: this is not a catfish.*

2. Name, and describe or draw, your favorite animal at the touch table.

   Is it a vertebrate or an invertebrate?

3. Name three things you can do to help ensure that seahorses don’t go extinct in the wild.

4. How much water can one oyster filter in an hour?

   What body part do they use to filter? What do they filter out of the water?

5. Name four animals that live among salt marsh grasses.
1. The sediments of Mobile Bay come from the erosion of what mountain chain?

2. Draw a hurricane in the box below.

   Does a hurricane form in warm water or cool water? ______________________

3. Name two reptiles that can be found in the Maritime Forest tank. ____________

4. **Billy Goat Hole:** Use the fishing pole to catch a fish. What kind did you catch? ________________ How long was it? __________________
   Was it long enough to legally keep? ______________________________________
Gulf of Mexico Gallery

1. List two ways sharks might help people.

________________________________________________________________________

2. What kind of animal, called a “living fossil,” has lived on Earth for 400 million years?

________________________________________________________________________

3. How many of the eight species of sea turtles are currently threatened or endangered? ________ Name three predators of a sea turtle hatchling.

________________________________________________________________________

4. Underwater Exploration: Name and draw an animal that can be found in the deep sea.

List one interesting fact about it.

________________________________________________________________________

1. The Weather Station: Record these current weather conditions.

1. Oil Spill: What is oil?

Air Temperature _______ Water Temperature _______

* Don’t forget to include units of measure.
Is oil different from place to place, or is it the same wherever it is found?

The Living Marsh Boardwalk

1. Circle the birds you observe while on the boardwalk.

Great Blue Heron  Sea Gull  Pelican  Egret

2. Look at the area of water and grass. What kind of ecosystem is this? What are two benefits of these ecosystems?

3. What helps stabilize sand grains, leading to the building of sand dunes? How can we help sand dunes stay in place?

4. How do plants and butterflies benefit each other?

5. 90% of floating marine debris is what kind of material? Explain one way marine debris harms wildlife. Explain one way marine debris harms people.
Invertebrate Trail

In the space below, make a rubbing of your favorite invertebrate from the Invertebrate Trail.