7th-12th Grade Scavenger Hunt

WATERFOWL
1. What percentage of Mississippi’s surface is covered by wetlands?
   __________% 

OUR WEAKENED WEB
2. Circle the extirpated (locally extinct) species:

Passenger Pigeon  Black Bear  Blue Catfish  Red Wolf  Raccoon

STORIES IN STONE
3. What is our state fossil? (Hint: Check the pink section of the fossil wall) ____________________________________________

HORN ISLAND AND THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND
4. Can you find these animals in the Horn Island Exhibit?
   ___Black Skimmer—these birds fly low over the surface of the water and skim the water with their lower beak. Look for their bright orange and black beak.
   ___Laughing Gulls—this is the largest and darkest of the black-headed gulls. It’s call is a variety of low chuckles.
   ___Blue Crab—these are easy to determine by their blue color
   ___Raccoon
   ___Diamondback Terrapin

RAPTORS
5. What is a raptor? ____________________
   a. Name 3 raptors:
      1. ________ 2. ________ 3. ________

BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST AND THE LIVING FOSSILS OF THE MISSISSIPPI
7. Find these animals in the Bottomland Hardwood Forest exhibit. (Check the box blank when you find them.)
   a. ___Cecropia Moth—this large moth is brown with orange and white stripes on its wings
   b. ___Pileated Woodpecker
   c. ___Ivory-billed Woodpecker—thought to be extinct, this bird can be distinguished from the Pileated Woodpecker by its size and the white patches on its wings.
   d. ___Viceroy Butterfly—this showy orange butterfly mimics a Monarch.
   e. ___Copperhead—this snake is well camouflaged.

TRUTH OR FALSE
8. The Alligator Gar, Pallid Sturgeon, and Paddlefish are species that have been on the earth since before the dinosaurs.

RIFFLE
9. What is a riffle? ____________________
INEY WOODS
10. The large tortoise is a Gopher Tortoise, a threatened species.
   Circle the animals that rely on the Gopher Tortoise:
   Dusky Gopher Frog   Black Pine Snake   White-tail Deer   Cecropia Moth

ORTHEAST HILLS AND PICWICK RESEVOIR
11. These two exhibits illustrate the aquatic and terrestrial habitats found in the northeastern corner of Mississippi, Tishomingo County. These hills are the most ancient exposed rocks in the state, dating back to the Paleozoic era. 
   True or False

EOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRDS
12. What can people do to insure that these birds, who are only in Mississippi from March-September, come back to this, one of their migratory homes?

EARL RIVER
13. How did the Pearl River get it’s name?

MISSISSIPPI’S TURTLES
14. How many turtle species are found in Mississippi?

CONFUSING COUNTERPARTS
15. What rhyme helps you to distinguish between the Scarlet King snake, the Scarlet Snake, and the Eastern Coral Snake?

MISSISSIPPI’S TOWERING TREASURES
16. Which leaves have the following shapes:
   a. Star ___________ b. Heart _______________ c. Teardrop _______________

MISSISSIPPI RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS
17. Circle the tools our scientists use in their research.
   Computers   Radio Collars   Scuba Equipment   Hammer   Notebook

EXPLORING MISSISSIPPI’S WEB OF LIFE
17. Are bats blind? ________ How do they find prey? _______________
18. Herbivores eat _________ Carnivores eat __________

WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE
19. What is the reason for the most recent decline in the turkey population?
20. Who founded the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science and spurred the creation of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks?
21. What can we do to nurture and protect our environment?