



7th-12th Grade Scavenger Hunt-KEY

WATERFOWL

1. What percentage of Mississippi's surface is covered by wetlands?
13 %

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*) Zygorhiza kochii

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:

American Kestrel; Merlin; Broad-winged Hawk; Cooper's Hawk; Golden Eagle; Harris' Hawk; Northern Harrier; Red-shouldered Hawk; Red-tailed Hawk; Rough-legged Hawk; Sharp-shinned Hawk; Swainson's Hawk; American Swallow-tailed Kite, Mississippi Kite; White-tailed Kite; Osprey; Barn Owl; Barred Owl; Burrowing Owl; Eastern Screech Owl; Great Horned Owl; Long-eared Owl; Northern Saw-Whet; Short-eared Owl; Snowy Owl; Black Vulture; Turkey Vulture ;American Eagle

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.

5. True or False

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? a rapid; to make water "choppy"

PINEY 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

NORTHEAST 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

NEOTROPICAL 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? plant native plants, put out bird baths; protect areas from development; put out bird feeders/shelters; learn more about birds

PEARL RIVER

13. How did the Pearl River get its name?

When Native Americans who lived in the area were harvesting fresh water mussels for food, they would take the "pearls" from the mussels and throw them back into the river.

MISSISSIPPI'S TURTLES

14. How many turtle species are found in Mississippi? 28 turtle species

CONFUSING COUNTERPARTS

15. What rhyme helps you to distinguish between the Scarlet King snake, the Scarlet Snake, and the Eastern Coral Snake? "Red on black, friend to Jack. Red on yellow kills a fellow."

MISSISSIPPI'S TOWERING TREASURES

16. Which leaves have the following shapes:

a. Star Sweetgum b. Heart Redbud c. Teardrop Hackberry

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

18. Are bats blind? No How do they find prey? Echo-location

19. Herbivores eat plants . Carnivores eat meat.

WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE

20. What is the reason for the most recent decline in the turkey population? _____

21. Who founded the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science and spurred the creation of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks? Fannye Cook

22. . What can we do to nurture and protect our environment? Minimize land development; reduce what we consume; enrich lands with native plants; recycle; carpool; eat locally; eat organically; obey hunting laws