College Level Scavenger Hunt

1. What percentage of the surface area of the state of Mississippi is in wetlands?

2. How do migratory birds “know” when to migrate or, in other words, what environmental cue is used to time their migrations?

3. Migration birds can use at least three very different types of information on navigation:
   a. Which of these would be available on a clear night?
   b. Which of these would be available on a clear day?
   c. Which would be available even on a foggy day or night?

4. Name four species of waterfowl that you can find as year-round resident of Mississippi.
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 
   d. 

5. Name four North American bird species that are known or are presumed to be extinct.

6. Name three large mammals that are not yet extinct, but that have been extirpated from Mississippi.

7. When did the dinosaurs go extinct?

8. Ammonites are extinct relatives of the nautilus and other cephalopod mollusks. Describe the ammonite on display.

9. When was the Eocene Epoch of the Tertiary Period?

10. What was is like in Mississippi during the Eocene?

11. Name two large marine mammals that swam in the ocean over Mississippi during the Eocene.
12. Titanotheres were hoofed mammals related to the rhinoceroses and horses. What kind of plant life might they have seen when they roamed Mississippi during the Eocene?

13. When was the Oligocene Epoch of the Tertiary Period?

14. What was Mississippi like during the Oligocene?

15. How might the rhinoceros relative *Metamynodon* have used its prominent canine teeth?

16. When did the Pleistocene Epoch Occur?

17. What climactic events occurred during the Pleistocene?

18. Name five mammal species that lived in Mississippi during the Pleistocene that are now extinct.

19. What is the scientific name of our national bird?

20. Name four mammals that are on Mississippi’s endangered list.

21. Name an insect that is on Mississippi’s endangered species list.

22. In what kind of habitat might you find diamondback terrapins and marsh fiddler crabs?

23. What causes the dark coloration of black water streams? Name two fish that are found only in black water streams.

24. What large aquatic salamander has tiny front and hind legs and eats crayfish, frogs, and small snakes?

25. What aquatic salamander has external gills; tiny front lets, no back legs, and yelps when distressed?
26. How is an oxbow lake formed?

27. Name six fish that can be considered the “living fossils of the Mississippi River”.

28. Describe the process by which the loess hills were formed.

29. Name four kinds of invertebrate animals that you might find in the Mississippi delta wetlands.

30. Name three kinds of amphibians you might find in a woodland ravine. (Note: *Skinks and anoles are lizards.*)

31. Name two lizards you might find in a woodland ravine.

32. What is the largest freshwater turtle in the United States?
   a. Which is the smallest?
   b. Which is the largest?

33. How is the pupil shaped in pit vipers?

34. What venomous snake found in Mississippi has a round pupil?

35. Name a flying mammal species can be found in Mississippi.

BONUS: Aldo Leopold said “*When we see the land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.*”

   A. What ways do you see yourself loving & respecting the land by how you are using it?