

# Habitats

## Suggested Activities



**COASTAL DISCOVERY MUSEUM**  
Experience The Lowcountry Up Close

The suggested activities below correlate with the education standards for each grade. We suggest that teachers look over the activities for all grades...another grade levels suggested activities might spark a great idea for an activity for your grade level too.

### Kindergarten:

1. Adaptation Dance! Have each student pick one animal from the habitat videos and think of one thing the animal does or has to survive. The student will stand up, tell the class their animal, where it lives, the one thing it has or does to survive, and create a single movement/dance to go with that animal's adaptation. The whole class will follow with saying the animals name and doing the dance.
2. Senses! After each habitat video ask the students to imagine they are in that habitat (maybe even have them close their eyes) and ask them...How do we know what habitat we are in? What do we smell? What do we see? What do we hear? What do we feel? What do we taste?

### First Grade:

1. Map the aquatic habitats. On a map locate the bodies of water we explored in the habitat videos (Google Earth or Google Maps/satellite view will work). Find the Atlantic Ocean, the Salt Marsh (70 Honey Horn Drive, Hilton Head Island, SC / there are two boardwalks on the west side of the Museum...that is where we did the Salt Marsh video), Jarvis Creek Park Pond, Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge Ibis Pond, Coastal Discovery Museum Dragonfly Pond (use property map at <https://www.coastaldiscovery.org/home/discover-and-explore/map-of-property/> to find this pond before you try to find it on google).
2. Dance of the tides! Recreate this video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4b5h0Voow0>) with your students.
3. Watch Phases of the Moon (and other great videos) at <https://www.lowcountryinstitute.org/night-skies-over-beaufort-county>

4. Food Chain game out of cups! Glue or tape images of living organisms onto cups and write the name of the organism on the rim. Mix them up, have kids put them in order, and stack them up! Do one set for each habitat.

### **Second Grade:**

1. Interactions! Have students pick one animal from each habitat and describe 3 different interactions that it might have with other animals or plants. This can be done as a presentation, writing assignment, drawing, etc.
2. Body parts grab bag! Put pictures or names of different animal body parts in a bag (bird beak, insect wing, frog leg, deer ear) and have students pull a part out of the bag and describe what the body part does and how it helps that animal survive. (Plenty of ways to adapt this activity like using picture of animals with circled body parts OR allowing students to pick their own animal body parts and describe how it helps the animal survive).

### **Third Grade:**

1. Recycle Bingo! <https://www.weareteachers.com/printable-recycle-bingo-game/>
2. Start a recycle bin or several recycle bins in your classroom.
3. Review the following terms: ecosystem, producers, consumers, decomposers, and food chain. While watching each of the habitat videos, have the students record the producers, consumers, and decomposers within that habitat. Review as a class and make one master list of all the producers, consumers, and decomposers. Have each student create a food chain using the living things on these lists.

### **Fourth Grade:**

1. Protect the salt marsh! Make posters to hang around school of how to protect the salt marsh and highlight its importance as a storm buffer.
2. Adaptions grab bag! Put pictures or names of different animal body parts or characteristics in a bag (bird beak, insect wing, frog leg, deer ear, sand colored ghost crab) and have students pull a part out of the bag and describe what the body part does and how it helps that animal survive. (Plenty of ways to adapt this activity like using pictures of animal with circle body parts OR allowing students to pick their own animal body parts and describe how it helps the animal survive).

**Fifth Grade:**

1. Create a Food Chain/Web. Have students create a food chain/web for each habitat video. They may have to do a little more research about each habitat.
2. Trash facts. Assign each student a trash item (plastic water bottle, plastic straw, napkin, aluminum can, food waste, etc.). Have them do a little research about how this trash item affects the environment (even when it ends up in the garbage dump) and what we can do to help (recycle that item, use reusable instead, etc.).

**Sixth Grade:**

1. Adaptions grab bag! Put pictures or names of different animal body parts or characteristics in a bag (bird beak, insect wing, frog leg, deer ear, sand colored ghost crab) and have students pull a part out of the bag and describe what the body part does and how it helps that animal survive. (Plenty of ways to adapt this activity like using pictures of animals with circle body parts OR allowing students to pick their own animal body parts and describe how it helps the animal survive).

**Seventh Grade:**

1. Soil activity ideas. <https://www.soils4teachers.org/lessons-and-activities>
2. Connections! As students watch each video have them make a list of connections for each habitat. Connections between biotic factors and connections between abiotic and biotic factors.

**Other:**

- Make a PSA about recycling. A PSA (public service announcement) is a fun way to get kids to further research recycling and turn their newfound knowledge into a video. Encourage students to research PSAs and really work on their overall messaging until it's perfect. You can assign different roles, like director, writer, producer, and on-screen talent. Once it's ready, film the PSA, edit it, and then share it with parents and the public. <https://www.weareteachers.com/21-ideas-big-and-small-to-bring-recycling-into-the-classroom/>
- Play Recycling Quiz Game. <https://www.pepsicorecycling.com/SchoolResources/46/educate/351/gameshow-style-quiz>