

# Jr. Scavenger Hunt

## Answer Key



### The Bay

1. Find a shark that hunts at night. *Horn Shark, Swell Shark*
2. Find the large, bright orange fish (the state marine fish of California.) Write its name here: Garibaldi
3. How long can a spiny lobster live? *Up to 30 years*
4. How many eels can you find? *Answer based on current number of eels on exhibit*

### The Marsh

1. Find a fish with venomous spines. *California Scorpionfish*
2. What can an octopus do to help it camouflage? *Change color, shape, and even texture*

### The Uplands

1. Name three animals at the Nature Center that live in the upland habitats. *Any animal currently on exhibit in the upland area*
2. Find an 8-legged animal that lives in the uplands: Desert Tarantula
3. What colors do you see on the rainbow trout? *Green, pink, red, white, silver, black*

### Shark & Ray Experience

1. Name three animals that live in the Shark & Ray Experience. *Leopard shark, bat ray, round ray, etc*
2. What is the shape of most rays' teeth? *Flat, molar-like teeth for grinding shellfish*
3. What are the leathery eggs laid by some sharks and rays called? *Mermaid's purse*
4. How many leopard sharks can you count? *Subject to change*

### Marsh Observation Deck

1. What are two types of wading birds? *Great egret, great blue heron*
2. What are four types of surface feeders? *Northern pintail, mallard, green-winged teal, and cinnamon teal*
3. Name six shoreline birds that you can find in Sweetwater Marsh. *Plovers, sandpipers, Dowitchers, Avocet, Marbled Godwit, Long-billed Curlew*

### Burrowing Owl Exhibit

1. What type of animal can a burrowing owl imitate? *Rattlesnake*
2. Where does a burrowing owl nest? *Abandoned squirrel burrows*

## **Shorebird Enclosure**

1. How many different shorebirds can you spot within the large aviary? See if you can name one! *Black crowned night heron, great egret, snowy egret, black oyster catcher, red-breasted merganser, white-faced ibis, gadwall, cinnamon teal, mallard hooded, merganser, North American ruddy duck, light-footed clapper rail*
2. What does a clapper rail eat? (*Hint: Look at the dinner plates.*) *Olive ear snail, insects, crabs, snails, cordgrass seeds*

## **Eagle Mesa and Raptor Row**

1. What are the things all raptors have in common? *Strong toes and sharp talons, hooked beaks for tearing flesh, and excellent binocular vision*
2. What do raptors use their strong toes and sharp talons for? *Catch and hold prey*
3. Find the national bird of the United States? What about Mexico? *Bald eagle, golden eagle*
4. Why do turkey vultures have a bald head? *To keep clean*
5. How many different types of owls can you find? *Barn, short-eared, great horned, screech*
6. What do ospreys like to eat? *Almost exclusively fish*

## **Turtle Lagoon**

1. How long can Eastern Pacific green sea turtles live? *100 years +*
2. How many sea turtles can you count? *Subject to change*
3. What is their favorite food? *Sea grasses and algae*
4. Where do they make their nests? *In the sand*

## **Bay Observation Deck**

1. How did the native people use the plants and animals of Sweetwater Marsh? *Food, medicine, dyes, and materials*
2. Name one living thing you can see from the Observation Deck? *Subject to change*
3. What is your favorite animal at the Nature Center?