

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Wetland Inhabitants Worksheet

Match the number of each picture of a wetland inhabitant to its description.

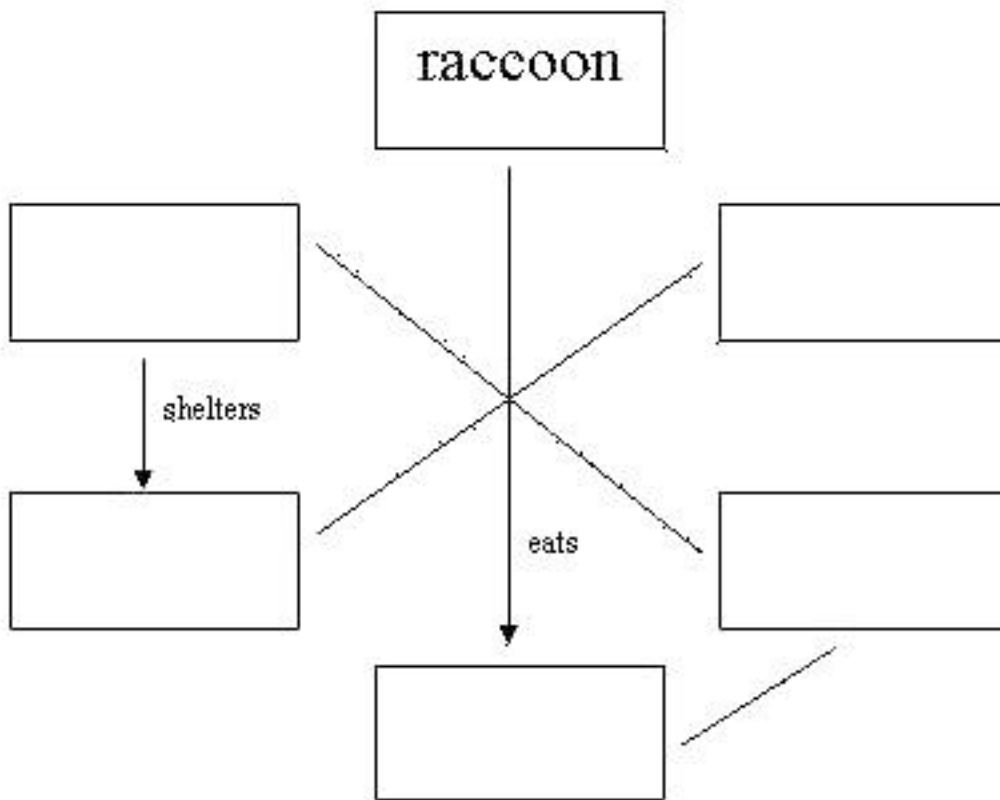
- \_\_\_\_\_ **A** The Diamondback terrapin is a year-round marsh dweller who likes to eat snails, worms, insects, crabs, and fish.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **B** The periwinkle snail crawls up and down on blades of marsh grasses to avoid the water as the tide rises and falls. She eats bits of algae and decaying plants.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **C** The fiddler crab lives in the marsh mud and eats dead plants.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **D** The graceful blue heron nests in the wetland and wades in nearby shallow waters, hunting for fish and crabs to eat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **E** The raccoon doesn't live in a wetland, but visits to hunt for crabs, oysters, clams, fish, and dragonflies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **F** Blue crabs are often in the marsh when the tide is high. They eat small fish and oysters. They also use the marsh as a hideout when shedding their hard shells.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **G** Rockfish use the marsh as a nursery for their young. The baby fish hide among the wetland plants when the tide is high.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **H** Cordgrass grows in the low marsh areas that get flooded with the high tides. This grass is excellent hiding for small fish and soft shell crabs.

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## Wetland Web of Life Worksheet

You have learned that all living things in a wetland are related. Using the information in your *Learning Exploration*, fill in the food web diagram below to show how living things interact. On the lines below the diagram, describe your web. Be sure to include these critters on your web:

**raccoon dragonfly human marsh plant rockfish blue crab,  
heron diamondback terrapin periwinkle snail**



How my web works:

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## Marsh Metaphors Worksheet

If you were trying to teach someone else about wetlands and how they work, you might find it helpful to compare wetlands to ordinary objects. How would you compare a wetland to each of the following objects?

A sponge \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Coffee filter \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A house \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A nursery \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A strainer \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Can you think of any other objects that you would use to describe a wetland and its functions to someone who had never heard of a wetland before?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Now, think again about the crew aboard *Pride II* as they travel around Chesapeake Bay. What are some of the animals that you expect them to find on their journey? Do any of them live in or visit wetlands for food or shelter? Pretend that you are a crew member aboard *Pride II* and think about what you'd expect to see in the air, water, or on land.

- Use your own paper to draw a picture of a wetland scene that you might view from the ship.
- Write a short description of an encounter with a wetland creature.