

Woods Hole Science Aquarium

THERE'S A LOT TO LEARN!

GROUND FISH

1) As you enter the aquarium, you will see a flatfish in the first tank. This fish is a:

- a) pollock
- b) cod
- c) halibut

2) The fish in the aquarium's logo is a species of fish found in one of the first 5 tanks. Name the fish:

LOBSTER

3) Lobsters can weigh more than:

- a) 20 pounds
- b) 30 pounds
- c) 40 pounds

4) How do lobsters and crabs, which have hard external skeletons, grow?

5) A 5-pound lobster is generally how old?

6) Lobsters can be many colors; the blue color (which is seen in one of our aquarium lobsters) is a result of which two possible factors?

_____ and _____.

Bonus Fun: How many lobsters do we have on exhibit at the Woods Hole Science Aquarium?

HOW OLD IS THAT FISH?

7) Scientists here at NOAA Fisheries "age" fish that have been caught in survey vessels to find out how old they are. There are two ways to age fish. List both ways:

_____ and _____.

8) The most precise way of aging fish is by looking at the _____, which is part of the fish's ear bone.

THREE, TWO, ONE....BLAST OFF!

9) The aquarium exhibits TWO species of fish which have been taken to space by NASA astronaut scientists. List the species.

_____ and _____.

10) Why do you think the scientist astronauts choose to bring these species in particular?

- a) they were small and easy to transport
- b) they are hardy and can handle a wide variety of salinity and pH.
- c) they were funny looking fish and would amuse the astronauts.

Bonus Fun: Guess how many fish are in tank 6 (6th tank from the aquarium entrance).

SOUNDS OF THE SEA

11) Endangered Right Whales feed off Cape Cod waters in the spring and summer. The whales can have a hard time communicating with each other due to this human made noise.

12) On the Sounds of the Sea exhibit, find a sound that you wouldn't guess could be made by an animal and list the species here.

SEA TURTLES

13) The largest species of sea turtle is the:

14) The fastest growing species of turtle in the world is the:

- a) Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle
- b) Diamondback Terrapin
- c) Leatherback Sea Turtle

15) Which species of sea turtle has a color in its name?

Bonus Fun: Which turtles are the most commonly spotted along Cape Cod?

SALT MARSH/SEAGRASS MEADOW ENVIRONMENTS

16) Cape Cod has numerous salt marshes. List one of the species you can observe in a salt marsh area.

17) Eel grass is critical for the survival of many coastal marine animals. Eel grass is a:

- a) a type of kelp
- b) a true grass (like grass in a meadow)
- c) algae

SHARKS, DOLPHINS, PORPOISES

18) List the three major differences between a dolphin and a porpoise.

19) What species of shark do we exhibit here at the WHSA?

20) The megalodon's closest living relative is:

- a) Great White Shark
- b) Whale Shark
- c) Bull Shark

Bonus Fun: How many individual sharks do you see in the aquarium? (don't forget those pups!)

SPORT FISHING

21) The Big Tank has a number of sport fish. Through observation, identify the fish that exhibit the following characteristics:

Fastest swimming: _____

Largest: _____

Best-camouflaged: _____

22) List the fish in the big tank that uses its fins to "taste" as it "walks".

TROPICAL WATERS

23) How do species of tropical fish get transferred from warm tropical waters to temperate Cape Cod waters?

- a) They migrate
- b) The Gulf Stream sweeps them north
- c) They get caught in the bilge of boats

24) Which fish in the aquarium is/are an invasive species?

25) Explain, as best you can, what the phrase "invasive species" means.

Bonus fun: Lionfish can envenomate. How do they do this?

IT'S BEHIND THE SCENES TIME!

26) Horseshoe crabs have blue colored blood. What is contained in the blood that makes it blue?

- a) copper
- b) iron
- c) zinc

27) How much food do the biologists prepare each year for the animals at WHSA?

28) Some of the tanks in the behind the scenes area are "time-out" tanks for fish that are misbehaving and need to stay separated for a short time. These fish will be ALONE in a tank. Tell us how many time-out tanks we currently have.

Bonus fun: What species of fish are in the time out tank(s)?

29) You may notice a lot of pipes up here! There are 5 major piping systems running above the aquarium tanks. Can you list what these 5 systems are? *Hint: Four are water, one is not...*

MARINE MAMMALS

30) Which four types of seals are most commonly seen in Cape Cod waters?

31) What type of seals live at the Woods Hole Science Aquarium?

32) What law protects seals?

33) The biologists train the seals for multiple reasons, list two of the reasons below.

a. _____

b. _____

34) You will hear a story about each of our seals during the feeding presentation. Once you have watched the presentation use the space below to explain why the two seals are living at the aquarium.

35) List THREE ways you can tell the difference between seals and sea lions.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

36) What (approximate) percentage of time do seals spend on land?

37) What should you do if you see a seal on the beach?

38) What are the four predators for seals?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____