



The Living Beach

Driftwood Education Center



Class Description:

In this class students will explore the species diversity of the Georgia Coast. Students will learn about the plant and animal species that inhabit Eat Beach, and participate in games and activities.

This program can be tailored and is appropriate for any grade level.

NOTE: As of 2006-2007, you must take at least 3 hours of consecutive Beach classes.

There will be no 1.5 hour classes offered at the beach.

Please review and pick 2 of 3 beach classes that Driftwood offers.

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Beach Ecology

Table of contents and outline:

II. Introduction, overview, and assessment (10 min)

1. What do your students know?
2. Class is in conjunction with Seine/Geology
3. Tell students what will happen today

III. Species Diversity

1. Beach Scavenger Hunt (20 minutes)
2. Animal Species: Activities (time you allot)
3. Beach Creatures group activity (20 minutes)
4. Plant Species and Exploration walk (10 min)
5. Optional Birding with ID sheets (time you allot)

IV. Conclusions and Wrap-up (10 minutes)

1. Human impact?
2. What did you learn?
3. Beach Clean up. (1-2 pieces of trash).

V. Additional Information and help

1. Games and explanations
 - a. Fish, shark, algae tag
 - b. Crab tag
 - c. Turtle Hurdles

Concepts:

Focal points of this class are:

1. Georgia's coasts have a large diversity of organisms that depend on the tidal activity for survival.
2. Human impact is a threat to the plant and animal species that inhabit tidal zones.
3. Organisms have unique adaptations that help them survive in their environment.

Outcomes:

Upon completion of this class, students will be able to:

1. Identify several species of organisms that inhabit local beaches and explain their adaptations.
2. Realize the impact that their daily lifestyle has on local beach ecosystems.

Georgia Performance Standards met or exceeded:

5th Grade:

1. **S5CS8.a** Scientific investigations may take many different forms, including observing what things are like or what is happening somewhere, collecting specimens for analysis, and doing experiments.

6th Grade:

1. **S6CS9.a**. Scientific investigations are conducted for different reasons.

7th and 8th Grade:

1. **S7CS5. a**. Observe and explain how parts can be related to other parts in a system such as predator/prey relationships in community/ecosystem.

2. **S7L4.c**. Recognize that changes in environmental conditions can affect the survival of both individuals and entire species.