

NORTH CAROLINA ESTUARIUM
Scavenger Hunt-Grades 8-12
Updated April, 2007

Room One- the Nature of the River

Find the watershed map of the Tar-Pamlico Estuary. Find the town of Washington. (You are here.)

1. Towns that are located to the left (west) of Washington are on what river?
2. Name two of these towns.

Find the Tar River Exhibit

3. Where does the Tar River begin?
4. What is the width of the Tar River near/above Rocky Mount?
5. What is the elevation of the Tar River at its source?

Find the Pamlico River Exhibit

6. How has the pitcher plant adapted to survive in nutrient poor soil?
7. How long is the Pamlico River?

Find the Pamlico Sound Exhibit

8. The food web of the Pamlico Sound includes many animals that are “outsiders.” Name some of these visitors.

Find the Changing Conditions Exhibit

9. Find the water tasting columns. Can you taste the difference in the ocean water, brackish water, and fresh water?
10. What happens to the water in the river when a west wind blows?

Find the Surviving and Thriving Exhibit

11. How do sea birds deal with a salty environment?
12. Watch the blue crabs. What do they use to protect themselves?

Room 2: People of the Pamlico River

13. What three groups of people have lived in the Pamlico area in the past?
14. How did people make a living in this area?

Room 3: Voices and Viewpoints

15. Sit down in the Video Room to watch and listen to the speakers. The river is important to them. Do you have a natural area that is important to you? Where is it?

Room 4: Protecting the River

16. **Find the “What is pollution?”** exhibit. What is pollution?
17. What are some of the pollutants affecting the Pamlico watershed?
18. **Find the “World of Clean Water” exhibit.** What percentage of the Tar-Pamlico waters is considered unimpaired (unpolluted)?
19. **Find the “Recent Hurricane Landfalls” exhibit.** When did Hurricane Floyd make landfall?
20. **Find the striped bass tilt-table called “Beating the odds”.** What are some of the dangers the fish must overcome to reach the spawning ground?
21. Search this same exhibit and name a plant and animal that could soon disappear forever.
22. **Find the exhibit “Rising Seas”.** When did the earth’s overall temperature begin rising noticeably quicker?
23. **Find the “Back to Nature” exhibit** of the City of Washington. Press the white buttons. What did the town build to clean up storm water runoff from downtown?