



DeBordieu[®]
Colony

DeBordieu Naturalist Activities

Helpful Resources for looking up information:

SCUTE, DNR, SC Master Naturalist, SC Wildlife, Audubon, National wildlife, Nature Conservancy, Ocean Conservancy, SC Master Gardeners, National Park Service, SC State Parks, Shell site, Wildflower site, iNaturalist app

Reminders:

If it has a mouth, it can bite... caution is highly recommended around alligators, snakes, spiders and all wild animals

The time of day will reveal different treasures, try to explore different times of day.

Supplies needed:

camera, pail, paper and pencil

Directions:

Take a picture, identify, list or describe your answers and have fun!

WILDLIFE ACTIVITIES: Choose 3



1. In the early morning, while the dew is still on the plants, look for spider webs and take a picture of one
2. Participate in a turtle walk or turtle inventory led by a SCUTE member or Park Ranger. List three things you learned about sea turtles. Why do turtles Dig the Dark?
3. Research the difference between cattle egret, snowy egret, and great egret. Look at their size, colors, beaks and legs.
4. What other birds do you see or hear during your visit? Take a picture of the bird or draw a picture and list their common name.
5. Where and when did you see? Three insects? Three mammals? Three reptiles?
6. Why is it important to never feed wild animals (except with bird feeders)?
7. How are alligators important to wading birds?
8. What can you do to protect nesting shore birds? Especially Hobcaw and Huntington Beach
9. If you see schools of fish trying to get out of the water, what are the possible reasons?
10. Look up on the computer or look at any signage describing the different species of crabs: blue, stone, spider, horseshoe, and hermit crabs. See if you can find any to watch and describe what you saw.
11. If you see a lot of butterflies clustered together, look around at the plants and structures like other plants and window frames for chrysalis; if you see one, take a picture.

PLANT ACTIVITIES: Choose 1



1. What wild flowers have you seen at the beach? Take a picture of them and find their common names. Look along ditches/green areas on the sides of the roads and parking areas.
2. Walk or take a ride from the entrance to the beach, What changes do you see in the land and plants? Take a picture or draw what you saw.

BEACH ACTIVITIES: Choose 2



1. Find 4 different types of shells and identify them by common name.
2. Oceans have tides, Lakes do not. Why?
3. Make a list of natural objects you find in the sand from the dunes to the water's edge. Make a list of the man-made ones you see. If it's appropriate, pick them up and dispose of them in an appropriate manner.
4. Why is it important to stay off the dunes? How do the sand dunes help people and wildlife?

MARSH ACTIVITIES: Choose 3



1. Make a list of three natural objects you observe in each: the salt marsh water, the fresh water, the ocean.
2. Go to the community dock/pier or boardwalk that has access to a marsh area at low tide.
3. What grasses do you see? What critters do you see? Look for Fiddler crabs, blue crabs, periwinkle snails on stalks of grass.
4. While you are in the marsh area, note what you hear? Describe the sounds that are man-made and the sounds that are natural. Go to a marsh boardwalk and listen for popping or snapping noises of snapping shrimp. Huntington Beach Park has many of these.
5. Observe the oyster beds at low tide and look for the signage or computer for information. How many gallons of water does an oyster filter daily? How does that help nature? Why is it important to recycle oyster shells?
6. List some of the wading birds you see at the marsh board walk. Identify three that you see.
7. Either research on a computer or go to Huntington Beach State Park causeway; there are signs about rice trunks. Describe what the rice trunks do.

ECOLOGY ACTIVITIES: Choose 2



1. Take a picture of you picking up trash on the beach. Why is it important to leave the beach free of trash?
2. Earthworms are important for our soil and environment. Give two reasons why earthworms are so important.
3. Explore a pine straw area and a leaf litter area. What differences do you see?
4. Go to a recycling center. Take some of your household recyclables and put them in the appropriate areas noting the posted categories. Go to a dump when/where a child/parents are welcome to observe and note what you see.
5. Go to a water treatment area. Observe and describe what you see.