

# 2010 Florida 4-H State Marine Ecology Event

## Marine Organisms Identification List

### JUNIORS (8-10 years old)

NOTE: Youth will NOT need to know any scientific names. Scientific names are given only to make sure youth study the right organism since many may have multiple common names. For the contest, youth will need to properly identify these organisms. Refer to the Companion Guide for ways each can be identified. Whenever possible try to study real specimens and not just the Species Identification Guide CD, since photos may not always show important distinguishing features.

There are 125 specimens for Juniors to know. Good Luck!

## Section 1: Marine and Coastal Plant Identification (25)

### Algae (3)

Sea lettuce  
Sargassum weed  
Red algae

### Scientific name

*Ulva lactuca*  
*Sargassum sp.*  
*Gracilaria sp.*

### Notes on natural history, habitat, features

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### Seagrasses (2)

Manatee grass  
Turtle grass

*Syringodium filiforme*  
*Thalassia testudinum*

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### Marsh plants (9)

Sawgrass  
Smooth cord grass  
Salt meadow cord grass  
Needle rush  
Southern glasswort  
Sea oxeye or Sea daisy  
Red mangrove

*Cladium jamaicense*  
*Spartina alterniflora*  
*Spartina patens*  
*Juncus roemerianus*  
*Salicornia virginica*  
*Borrichia frutescens*  
*Rhizophora mangle*

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Black mangrove  
White mangrove

*Avicennia germinans*  
*Laguncularia racemosa*

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**Beach plants (9)**

Sea oats  
Railroad vine  
Sea Grape  
Sea purslane  
Firewheel or Indian blanket  
Dune Sunflower  
Prickly pear cactus  
Cabbage palm  
Sand Bur or sandspur

*Uniola paniculata*  
*Ipomoea pes-caprae*  
*Coccoloba uvifera*  
*Sesuvium portulacastrum*  
*Gaillardia pulchella*  
*Helianthus debilis*  
*Opuntia compressa*  
*Sabal palmetto*  
*Cenchrus tribuloides*

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**Introduced coastal plants (2)**

Australian pine  
Brazilian pepper

*Casuarina spp.*  
*Schinus terebinthifolius*

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## Section 2: Marine and Coastal Invertebrates Identification (50)

**Poriferans (sponges) (3)**

Tube sponge  
Basket sponge  
Sheepswool sponge

**Scientific Name**  
*Callyspongia sp.*  
*Hircinia canaliculated*  
*Hippospongia lachne*

**Notes on natural history, habitat, features**  

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**Cnidarians (8)**

Portuguese Man-o-War  
Common (moon) jellyfish  
Sea whip  
Sea fan  
Giant (pink-tipped) sea anemone  
Brain coral

*Physalia physalis*  
*Aurelia Aurelia*  
*Leptogorgia sp*  
*Gorgonia sp.*  
*Condylactus gigantea*  
*Diploria labyrinthiformis*

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Mud crab  
 Ghost crab  
 Arrow crab  
 Fiddler crab  
 Atlantic mole crab or sand flea  
 White shrimp  
 Spiny lobster

*Panopeus sp.*  
*Ocyrode quadrata*  
*Stenorhynchus seticornis*  
*Uca sp.*  
*Emerita talpoida*  
*Penaeus setiferus*  
*Panulirus argus*

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**Echinoderms (6)**

Variiegated urchin  
 Pencil urchin  
 Keyhole sand dollar  
 Common sea star  
 Brittle star  
 Sea cucumber

*Lytechinus sp.*  
*Cidaris tribuloides*  
*Mellita quinquiesperforata*  
*Echinaster sp.*  
*Ophionereis reticulate*  
*Pentacta pigmaea*

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**Tunicates (sea squirts) (1)**

Leathery sea squirt

*Styela plicata*

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## Section 3: Marine and Coastal Vertebrates Identification (50)

**Fishes (27)**

Southern stingray  
 Bonnethead shark  
 Nurse shark  
 Sheepshead porgy  
 Pinfish  
 Atlantic croaker  
 Spotted seatrout  
 Striped burrfish  
 Toadfish  
 Mullet

**Scientific Name**  
*Dasyatis Sabina*  
*Sphyrna tiburo*  
*Ginglymostoma cirratum*  
*Archosargus probatocephalus*  
*Lagodon rhomboids*  
*Micropogonias undulates*  
*Cynoscion nebulosus*  
*Chilomycterus schoepfi*  
*Opsanus beta*  
*Mugil cephalus*

**Notes on natural history, habitat, features**

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Laughing gull  
Ring-billed gull  
Bald eagle  
Osprey  
Black skimmer  
American oystercatcher  
Redwing blackbird  
Wood stork

*Larus atricilla*  
*Larus delawarensis*  
*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*  
*Pandion haliaetus*  
*Rynchops niger*  
*Haematopus palliatus*  
*Agelaius phoeniceus*  
*Mycteria Americana*

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**Mammals (3)**

Manatee  
Bottlenose dolphin  
Humpback whale

*Trichechus manatus*  
*Tursiops truncatus*  
*Megaptera novaeangliae*

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