

Florida 4-H State Marine Ecology Event

Marine Organisms Identification List *(Revised 2014)*

JUNIORS (8-10 years old)

NOTE: Youth do 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 correctly identify these organisms. Refer to the Companion Guide for ways each can be identified. If possible try to study real specimens and not just the photos in the Species Identification Guide CD, since photos may not always show important distinguishing features. **(* These organisms were added to Junior list. If bolded, this indicates the species is new for all lists!)**

There are 131 specimens for Juniors to know. Good Luck!

Section 1: Marine and Coastal Plant Identification (27)

Algae (4)

Sea lettuce

Scientific name

Ulva lactuca

Notes on natural history, habitat, features

Shaving brush algae*

Penicillus capitatus

Sargassum weed

Sargassum sp.

Red algae

Gracilaria sp.

Seagrasses (2)

Manatee grass

Syringodium filiforme

Turtle grass

Thalassia testudinum

Marsh plants (9)

Sawgrass

Cladium jamaicense

Smooth cord grass

Spartina alterniflora

Salt meadow cord grass

Spartina patens

Needle rush

Juncus roemerianus

Southern glasswort

Salicornia virginica

Sea oxeye or Sea daisy

Borrichia frutescens

Red mangrove

Rhizophora mangle

Black mangrove
White mangrove

Avicennia germinans
Laguncularia racemosa

Beach plants (10)

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

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

Introduced coastal plants (2)

Australian pine
Brazilian pepper

Casuarina spp.
Schinus terebinthifolius

Section 2: Marine and Coastal Invertebrates Identification (52)

Poriferans (sponges) (3)

Tube sponge
Basket sponge
Sheepswool sponge

Scientific Name
Callyspongia sp.
Hircinia canaliculated
Hippospongia lachne

Notes on natural history, habitat, features

Cnidarians (8)

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

Physalia physalis
Aurelia Aurelia
Leptogorgia sp
Gorgonia sp.
Condylactus gigantea
Diploria labyrinthiformis
Acropora palmate
Acropora cervicornis

Annelid worms (2)

Fire or Bristle worms
 Christmas tree worm

Hermodice sp. or Eurythoe sp.
Spirobranchus giganteus

Molluscs (18)

Limpet

Slipper shell*

Crepidula sp.

Bay scallop

Aequipecten irradians

Atlantic ribbed mussel

Geukensia demissa

Pen shell

Atrina rigida

Eastern oyster

Crassostrea virginica

Sunray venus

Macrocallista nimbosa

Giant Atlantic cockle

Dinocardium robustum

Coquina clam

Donax variabilis

Florida horse conch

Pleuroploca gigantea

Florida crown conch

Melongena corona

Pink or Queen conch

Strombus gigas

Banded tulip

Fasciolaria hunteria

Atlantic moon snail or Shark's eye

Polinices duplicatus

Common sundial (NEW!)*

Architectonica sp.

Lightning whelk

Busycon contrarium

Common octopus

Octopus vulgaris

Squid

Loligo pealei

Arthropods (14)

Acorn barnacle

Balanus sp.

Horseshoe crab

Limulus polyphemus

Green striped hermit crab

Clibanarius vittatus

Blue crab

Callinectes sapidus

Spider crab (NEW) *

Libinia dubia

Yellowline Arrow crab (NEW!) *

Stenorhynchus seticornis

Stone crab

Menippe mercenaria

Mud crab

Panopeus sp.

Ghost crab

Ocypode quadrata

Fiddler crab

Uca sp.

Atlantic mole crab or sand flea

Emerita talpoida

White shrimp

Penaeus setiferus

Banded coral shrimp*

Stenopus hispidus

Spiny lobster

Panulirus argus

Echinoderms (6)

Variegated urchin

Lytechinus sp.

Pencil urchin

Cidaris tribuloides

Keyhole sand dollar

Mellita quinquesperforata

Common sea star

Echinaster sp.

Brittle star

Ophionereis reticulate

Sea cucumber

Pentacta pigmaea

Tunicates (sea squirts) (1)

Leathery sea squirt

Styela plicata

Section 3: Marine and Coastal Vertebrates Identification (52)

Fishes (29)

Southern stingray

Dasyatis Sabina

Notes on natural history, habitat, features

Bonnethead shark

Sphyrna tiburo

Nurse shark

Ginglymostoma cirratum

Sheepshead porgy

Archosargus probatocephalus

Pinfish

Lagodon rhomboids

Atlantic croaker

Micropogonias undulates

Spotted seatrout

Cynoscion nebulosus

Striped burrfish

Chilomycterus schoepfi

Checkered puffer (NEW!)*

Sphoeroides testudineus

Toadfish

Opsanus beta

Mullet

Mugil cephalus

Hardhead catfish

Arius felis

Black seabass

Centropristis striata

Gag grouper

Mycteroperca microlepis

Grey snapper

Lutjanus griseus

Jack crevalle

Caranx hippos

Lookdown

Selene vomer

Great barracuda

Sphyrna barracuda

Triggerfish

Balistes spp.

Queen angelfish

Holocanthus ciliaris

Lined seahorse

Hippocampus erectus

Pipefish	<i>Sygnathus</i> sp.	_____
Gulf flounder	<i>Paralichthyes albigutta</i>	_____
Snook	<i>Centropomus undecimalis</i>	_____
Planehead filefish*	<i>Monacanthus hispidus</i>	_____
Batfish	<i>Ogcocephalus</i> sp.	_____
White grunt	<i>Haemulon plumeri</i>	_____
Red drum or Redfish	<i>Sciaenops ocellatus</i>	_____
Dolphin fish (Mahi mahi)	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	_____

Reptiles (4)

Loggerhead turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	_____
Hawksbill turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricate</i>	_____
American alligator	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	_____
American crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	_____

Birds (16)

Brown pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	_____
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	_____
Roseate spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>	_____
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	_____
Yellow-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax violaceus</i>	_____
Great egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	_____
White ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	_____
Frigate bird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	_____
Laughing gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	_____
Ring-billed gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	_____
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	_____
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	_____
Black skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	_____
American oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	_____
Redwing blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	_____
Wood stork	<i>Mycteria Americana</i>	_____

Mammals (3)

Manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	_____
Bottlenose dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	_____
Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	_____