

VOCABULARY LIST

LAGOON EXPERIENCE

Brackish water- a mixture of salt and fresh waters.

Detritus- bits of animal and plant matter broken down by bacteria; this forms the base of the lagoon's food chain.

Estuary- the part of a wide lower course of a river where its current meets and mixes with the salt water of the ocean and is influenced by the tides. Mosquito Lagoon is an estuary.

Food Chain- the process by which animals and plants feed on lower groups of animals and plants. Green plants form the base of most food chains.

Habitat- the area where an organism is supplied with food, shelter, water and space.

Lagoon- body of water separated from the ocean by a barrier island. Lagoons are typically very shallow with some tidal flow.

TURTLE MOUND PROGRAM

Archaeologist- a scientist that studies historic areas such as Turtle Mound.

Artifact- a man-made object of historic interest; usually a tool or weapon.

Mound- a man-made elevation with a specific purpose, i.e. burial mound, ceremonial mound.

Midden- a mound made from discarded shells from the processing of edible shellfish.

Timucuan- a group of Native Americans that occupied Central Florida and Southern Georgia prior to Ponce de Leon's arrival in Florida.

ANIMALS AND DUNES PROGRAMS

Barrier Island- a long, narrow slip of land that protects the mainland from the ocean. It is separated from the mainland by the lagoon.

Face of the Dune- the part of the dune that faces the ocean.

Inlet- a narrow channel leading from inland waters to the ocean. Ponce Inlet connects the Mosquito Lagoon to the Atlantic Ocean.

Marine Debris- any objects found floating that does not naturally occur.

Sand Dune- an elevated ridge of sand deposited by wind and ocean.

Scrub Zone- the back part of the dune covered by saw palmetto and other vegetation.

Carnivore- an animal whose primary source of food is animal flesh

Herbivore- an animal whose primary source of food is plant material

Omnivore- an animal that eats both plants and animals and can use either of these primary food sources