

How to fold the mini guide into a booklet

1. Carefully cut or tear at the dotted line to remove from book.



2. Fold in half lengthwise.



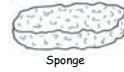
3. Then fold in half crosswise.



4. Then fold in half crosswise again.

Wetlands Metaphors

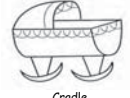
Metaphors are a way to compare unrelated things, such as "Ana Maria is as happy as a clam." Below are pictures of items seemingly unrelated to wetlands. Can you figure out how these items compare to a wetland? In other words, think about what each item does. Then, drawing on what you have learned about wetlands, compare that item's function to how a wetland might function in that same way.



Sponge



Flower



Cradle



Pillow



Strainer



Eggbeater



Can of soup

Anasas:
 Sponges: Wetlands help prevent floods, absorb water, and hold moisture.
 Cradle: Wetlands provide shelter and a place to raise young.
 Pillow: Wetlands provide a resting place for migratory birds and a home for resident wildlife.
 Strainer: Wetlands strain out debris and pollution.
 Eggbeater: Wetlands mix and cycle nutrients.
 Flower: Wetlands are beautiful places.
 Can of soup: Wetlands provide nutrients (food) for wildlife.

Wetlands Memories

The name of the Wetland I visited is: _____

Scientists use their senses to make observations. How many things can you observe in each of the following categories? Write or draw them:

I saw...

I smelled...

I heard...

I felt...

Write a paragraph about your visit to a wetland. What was most interesting to you? What did you like best? Why are wetlands important?

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Glossary

Aquifers:	Places underground where water filtered from the surface is accumulated.
Bioregion:	An area of the same type of animals, plants and climates.
Contiguous:	Sharing a common border, touching.
Detritus:	Remains of animals and plants after they die and decompose.
Food chain:	The flow of energy from the sun to plants and then to animals that eat them.
Food web:	A system of connected food chains.
Ecosystem:	A set of living organisms, their physical environment and the interactions between them.
Endangered:	A plant or animal that could be at risk of disappearing forever.
Estuary:	A place where fresh water from rivers mixes with the salt water of the ocean.
Habitat:	A place where animals or plants live, and find food, water, shelter and adequate conditions to reproduce.
Invertebrate:	Animals without a backbone, including animals with a hard exoskeleton, such as crabs and clams.
Nutrients:	Substances that provide nourishment for growth and the eminence of life.

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Glossary (cont.)

Mariculture:	The cultivation of fish and other marine life for food.
Migratory:	Animals that travel long distances from one area to another, depending on the season, to find food and reproduce.
Mediterranean Climate:	Hot, dry summers and warm, moist winters.
Pacific Flyway:	The route along the west coast of North, Central and South America that birds follow in their migrations.
Plankton:	Microscopic or tiny animals and plants that live floating in the water.
Pristine:	An area that is in its original condition, unspoiled.
Predator:	An animal that hunts another and feeds upon it.
Resident:	An animal that always lives in the same area.
Species:	A group of similar organisms capable of producing offspring.
Threatened:	Any living species that may become endangered if not protected or provided adequate habitat.

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Now that you know a lot about wetlands, you are ready to help us to protect them by becoming a

Wetlands Protector.

You have learned the potential threats for wildlife in wetlands. Write down some of these threats and what you can do to protect plants and animals from them:



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Certifies

That _____

has become a

Wetlands Protector

For completing all the activities contained in the "Wetland Neighbors" book, visiting California's bioregional wetlands, and committing to help conserve and protect them on behalf of present and future generations.

Visited wetlands:



Punta Banda Estuary



Tijuana Estuary
NWR



South San Diego Bay
NWR



Sweetwater Marsh
NWR