A Day at the Beach

Pre- and Post-Visit Activities:
A Day at the Beach

Overview:
These activities, which support the Staten Island Museum’s lesson “A Day at the Beach”, introduce students to the beach habitat of Staten Island.

Vocabulary:
- **Algae** - green non-flowering plant that grows in the water and has no stems, roots, or leaves; seaweed
- **Barnacle** - a marine crustacean with an external shell, which attaches itself permanently to a variety of surfaces, such as rocks, boat hulls, whales, and piers; they feed by filtering particles from the water using their modified feathery legs
- **Beach** - a pebbly or sandy shore, especially by the ocean between high and low water marks
- **Bivalve** - an aquatic mollusk with a hinged shell, such as oysters, clams, mussels, and scallops.
- **Clam** - a bivalve mollusk with shells of equal size
- **Crab** - an aquatic crustacean with a broad shell, eyes on stalks, and five pair of legs (the first pair are modified pincers)
- **Crustaceans** - an aquatic animal, such as a crab, lobster, or shrimp, usually having several pairs of legs and a body made up of sections that are covered in a hard outer shell
- **Echinoderm** - an aquatic invertebrate including starfish, sea urchins, and sea cucumbers that have fivefold radial symmetry; they move around on tube feet operated by fluid pressure
- **Gastropod** - a mollusk with a univalve shell, such as a snail, slug or whelk
- **Invertebrates** - an animal without a backbone
- **Mollusk** - an invertebrate animal, such as a clam, mussel, snail or squid, with a soft body that is enclosed in a shell
- **Mussel** - a bivalve mollusk with a purple, black or brown shell
- **Ocean** - a large body of salt water
- **Oyster** - a bivalve mollusk with a rough, irregular shell
- **Plankton** - microscopic organisms that float or drift in oceans or fresh water; animals like the sea sponge feed on plankton by filtering the sea water.
- **Quahog** - a large edible clam with a thick shell
- **Salt water** - sea water; water containing large amounts of salt
- **Sand** - very tiny, loose pieces of rock that cover beaches
- **Scallop** - an edible bivalve mollusk with a ribbed fan-shaped shell; scallops swim rapidly by opening and closing the shell valves
- **Sea snail** - a marine mollusk with a spiral shell
- **Sea sponge** - a simple bottom dwelling animal that attaches itself to something and receives nutrients by filtering sea water
- **Seaweed** - aquatic plants that grow in the sea, such as algae and kelp
- **Shore** - the land along the edge of an ocean, sea, lake, or other large body of water
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- **Starfish** - a marine echinoderm with five or more radiating arms. They use tube feet for locomotion and to open mollusk shells to feed on.
- **Tide** - the rising and falling of the surface of the ocean caused twice daily by the attraction of the sun and the moon
- **Univalve** - a mollusk with a shell consisting of one valve, especially a gastropod
- **Wave** - movement or swelling on the surface of the ocean

**Before Your Visit:**
Complete the ocean animals and plants worksheet.

**After Your Visit:**
Complete remaining pictures/activities in the beach booklet you made.
Draw a line from the object’s name to its picture.

SCALLOP

STARFISH

SEAWEED

RAZOR CLAM

MUSSEL

MOON SNAIL

CRAB

QUAHOG

OYSTER

SEAGULL

HORSESHOE CRAB

WHELK