



Beach Scavenger Hunt



1. Find a shell with a perfect hole in it

- You can often find shells on the beach with a perfect circular hole that looks like it was supposed to be made into a necklace. This hole is actually caused by a whelk (a type of sea snail) that ate the clam or scallop that was inside the shell.

2. Find a clam shell



- Clams are a very important part of the ecosystem. They are a good food source for other animals and they help to filter and clean the water around them.

3. Find a scallop shell



- Did you know that scallops have 100 blue eyes that help them tell between light and dark? Scallops are also the fastest moving bivalve. They can open and close their shell forcing a jet of water to propel the scallop forward.

4. Find a plant that grows on the beach

- Did you know that plants on the beach help to prevent erosion? That means that the roots from the plants help to hold on to the sand so that it doesn't get washed away by the ocean. This is really important for animals like sea turtles and sea birds such as piping plovers and oyster catchers that nest on the beach.

5. Find 10 pieces of garbage and throw it away in the trash

- Marine debris can be extremely harmful to wildlife. Some animals will accidentally eat the garbage thinking that it is food. They can also become entangled in fishing line and rope. Any trash that we can take off of the beach is a big help to wildlife.

6. Find a type of seaweed

- Seaweeds play an important role in the marine ecosystem. Kelp forests provide habitat for many animals. Seagrass and algae are also a main food source for Atlantic green sea turtles. Hatchling sea turtles also find refuge in sargassum seaweed.

7. Bonus!

- Make a sand castle

