Pre-Aquarium Visit
1. Define adaptation. ________________________________________________________
2. Make a list of animal adaptations. ___________________________________________
3. How do adaptations help an organism survive? ________________________________

Animal Planet Australia: Wild Extremes
4. This snake has a black head. How do you think this snake uses its head to regulate its body temperature? ________________________________
5. In the Australia exhibit, there is a fish that is born male and then becomes female. Locate this fish and write its name. ______
6. Find the archerfish. What do you notice about its lips? How do these lips help the fish survive? ________________________________
7. Which Australian fish can survive out of the water? ___________________________

Blacktip Reef
8. What are some benefits of living in a coral reef? ______________________________
9. Blacktip reef sharks are considered apex predators. This means they are at the top of the food chain. What would happen if all blacktip reef sharks were removed from their environment? ________________________________
10. Is coral a living organism? _______________________________________________

Blue Wonders: Reefs to Rainforests
11. In the Coastal Beach exhibit, how does the flounder defend itself? ______________
12. Fish with a mustache! Lake sturgeon are called bottom feeders. How do they use their “whiskers” to find food? ______________
13. Why do puffins have bright orange feet and a bright beak? ______________________

Amazon River Forest
14. Come eye to eye with the silver arawana. What is unique about its eyesight? ______________

Upland Tropical Rain Forest
15. Climb to the top of the rain forest. Can you find a sloth? What adaptations does a sloth possess to be able to live in the rain forest? ________________________________
16. What does bright coloration on insects or frogs usually mean? ____________________

Atlantic Coral Reef/Shark Alley
19. Find a stingray and watch it move. How does its body shape help it to glide through the water? ________________________________
20. What is the advantage of having gills and a mouth underneath your body, like a stingray?

21. Why do fish swim in a school?

22. What is the function of a “saw-like” mouth on the large-tooth sawfish?

Dolphin Discovery (Hint: You can ask a dolphin trainer for help)

23. A dolphin is darker on the top and lighter on the bottom. This is called counter-shading. Watch the dolphins and predict how counter-shading helps a dolphin survive in its environment.

24. What adaptations do dolphins have that help them survive in their environment?

Jellies Invasion: Oceans Out of Balance

25. What adaptation does the spotted lagoon jelly use for protection from predators?

26. How are jellyfish surviving the algae blooms created from global warming?

27. What allows Pacific sea nettles to stay in or around sunlight?

Post-Aquarium Visit

28. What was the coolest adaptation you saw during your visit to the Aquarium?

29. What was your favorite part of your Aquarium visit? Why?

VSC Standards:

GOAL 3.0 LIFE SCIENCE:
The students will use scientific skills and processes to explain the dynamic nature of living things, their interactions and the results of the interactions that occur over time.

GOAL 6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:
Students will use scientific skills and processes to explain the interactions of environmental factors (living and non-living) and analyze their impact from a local to a global perspective.

5 EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL CHAPERONES

Welcome to the National Aquarium! As a chaperone, you have a very important job. If you follow these tips, your trip will be safe, educational and fun!

1. Keep your group together. Chaperones are required to stay with their students at all times! Students must enter Dolphin Discovery and 4-D Immersion Theater with a chaperone.
2. Food, drinks, gum and smoking are not permitted in the Aquarium.
3. If you must leave the Aquarium, get your hand stamped for re-entry at the exit door. Students do not need their hands stamped, only chaperones.
4. Use caution. Please limit or eliminate the use of cell phones. Please exercise caution on the escalators.
5. Be respectful. Please do not tap or bang on the exhibit windows, as it can disturb the animals. Please be courteous around other Aquarium visitors.

Thank you for complying with these expectations.

We hope you and your group have a fun and educational field trip! Due to the large number of students touring our facility, we regret that we cannot check coats, book bags or other storage containers.

Visit aqua.org/learn/baltimore-field-trips and look in Step 4 for the answer sheet.