



Recommended for
High School

The Florida Aquarium I.Q. Test

Crazy Bizarre Facts You May Or May Not Want To Know

WETLANDS GALLERY

Be prepared for a wet and wild time! Keep one eye trained toward the sky – you are a walking target for the feathered snipers!

1. How many gallons of water flow out of Florida springs each day? _____

2. What are some differences between an alligator and a crocodile? _____

3. Name 3 physical characteristics of an otter that contribute to its powerful swimming capabilities. _____

4. After otter pups are born in early spring, which parent is responsible for feeding and caring for the offspring? Does this role change as time goes on? How so? _____

5. Observe the turtles in the cypress swamp. The males have long claws on their front feet which they fan in the females face - always trying to impress! Can you spot this crazy courtship?



Aquariumania

Head up the stairs to the wetlands overlook.

Do you keep fish at home? If so, you may recognize some of them here!

6. Name at least three fish in the Great Tank exhibit.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
7. Why is Florida such an ideal place for fish farms?
8. In some fish, babies develop inside the female's body. These fish are called _____.

BAYS AND BEACHES

As you weave your way through, make sure not to miss a thing. We have some weird and wonderful creatures, and many are masters of camouflage. Sharp eyes are needed!

9. Tampa Bay is an interesting mixture of freshwater and salt water. Why is this odd mixture of water so important? _____

10. Sea grasses are the only true marine flowering plant. Recently we have seen a decline in sea grass beds in Florida. How does the decline in sea grass beds affect other marine animals? _____

11. LOBSTER, anyone? Ours look quite tasty...Hands off! Lobsters, like most crustaceans, "shed" their skin. It is not the transparent skin shed, like a snake, but rather a perfect replica of the living animal, colors and all. What is the proper name for this phenomenon? _____

12. How can you miss the largest fish in the Bays and Beaches? It is from the grouper family and has an interesting sexual history. When small it functions as a female, but as it grows it becomes male. What is the common name of this enormous fish? _____



13. Stingrays, stingrays everywhere, and all have barbs. Some are harmful and some are not. There are three species of stingray in our beach exhibit. All three can be found in great numbers along the shores here in the Gulf of Mexico. Identify these animals! Can you spot the barbs? They are located toward the BASE of the tail, not the tip. What should you do if a stingray tags you?



CORAL REEF/ DRAGONS DOWN UNDER

You have entered one of the most spectacular and diverse habitats on earth! Don't be overwhelmed- Let your eyes and ears take you on a magnificent journey.

14. Check out the huge sand tiger sharks that are prowling the reef! List three things you can do to prevent a shark attack:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

15. Look carefully and patiently. Do you see the long, green creatures? What are they and why do they sit in the reef and open and close their mouths? _____

17. Stop at the main panoramic window. Observe for a few minutes. You will see a beautiful fish with "blue mascara" swimming in a pattern using the top and bottom fins (dorsal and anal fins), not side ones (pectoral fins). During a dive show it might be identified (you can also ask.) What is its name?

18. Journey down under to Australia. Here, you will glimpse rare and spectacular creatures. What is so unique about the male sea dragon, seahorse, and pipefish? _____





19. Which is the sea dragon most closely related to?

1. Seahorse
2. Pipefish
3. Lizards

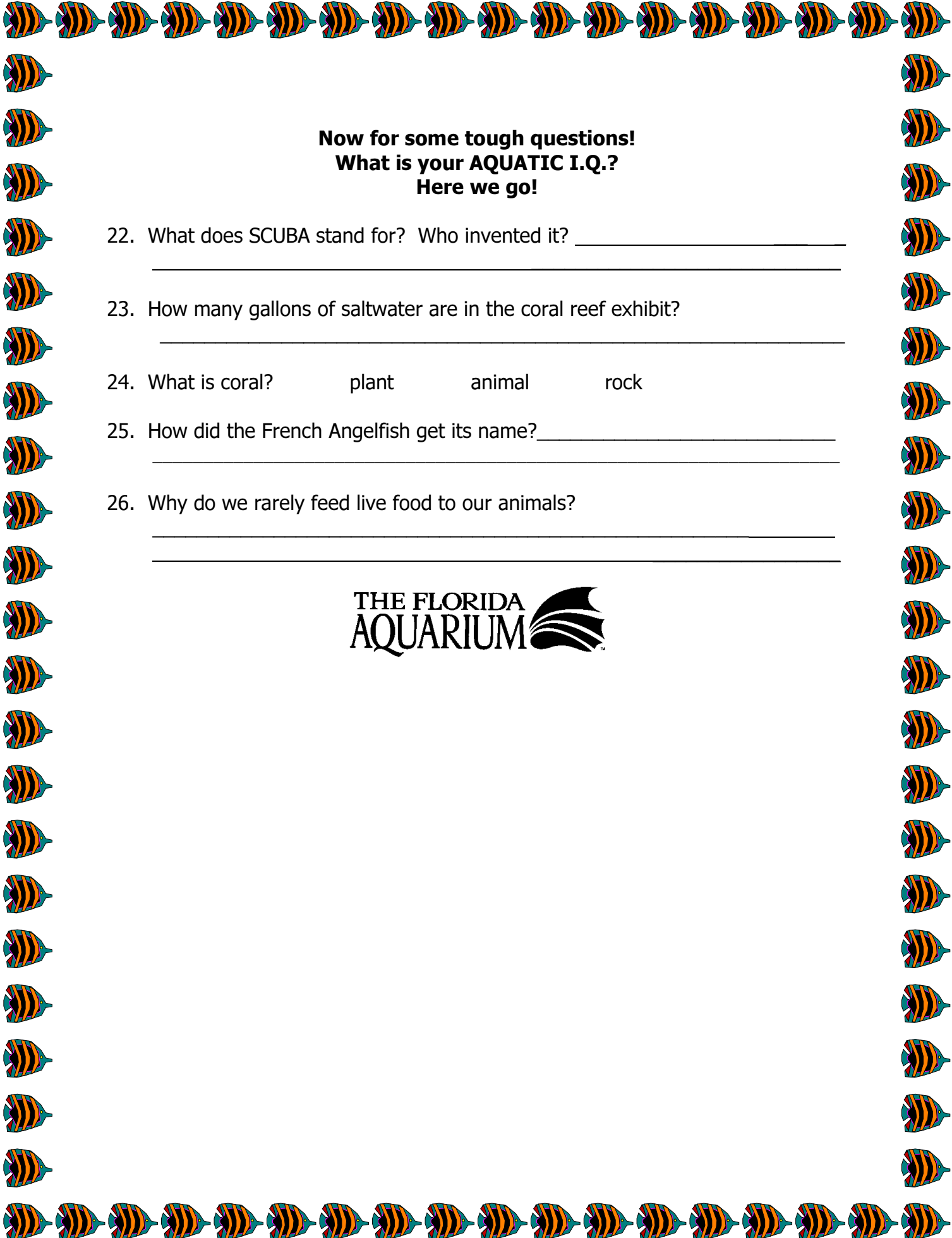
Ocean Commotion

Don't be fooled by beauty and grace. You are about to enter the realm of some of the most cunning predators on the planet!

20. Check out all of those teeth! Did you know sharks teeth are similar to human fingerprints, the shape of the tooth will determine what type of shark that it came from. How many different species of sharks do we have in Shark Bay?

21. Notice the swirling school of silvery fish in Shark Bay. Why do they exhibit this behavior?

22. Symbiosis is a cooperative relationship between two dissimilar organisms. Name a pair of symbionts and describe how they benefit one another.



Now for some tough questions!
What is your AQUATIC I.Q.?
Here we go!

22. What does SCUBA stand for? Who invented it? _____

23. How many gallons of saltwater are in the coral reef exhibit?

24. What is coral? plant animal rock

25. How did the French Angelfish get its name? _____

26. Why do we rarely feed live food to our animals?

