



Unless otherwise noted, write answers in complete sentences

Mezzanine Level

1. Look at the fish in the tank next to the bubble tower. Look at the longnose gar. Estimate their length of one of them using your hand and arm.

Estimate: Hand span from thumb to pinkie finger: 6 inches
 Knuckle of thumb to tip of thumb: 1 inch

The longnose gar I measured was about _____ inches long.

Before the Basin

2. Go to the Champlain Sea Tide Pool. Can you find these animals in Lake Champlain today?

- Yes, these animals do live in Lake Champlain today.
- No, these animals do not live in Lake Champlain today.

How do you know that these animals do or don't live in Lake Champlain?

_____.

3. Go to the Awesome Forces Theater and watch the movie. What kind of whale once swam in the Champlain Sea?

- Blue whale
- Killer (Orca) whale
- Beluga whale
- Humpback whale

The skeleton of this animal was found in _____ Vermont.
(town)

What does this tell you about the time or the area that this skeleton was found? Make two educated guesses!

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

Lake Champlain Basin Program Resource Room

4. Name the two animals that live in the resource room.

Animal Name _____

Animal Name _____

Name 2 things they have in common:

Name 2 differences:

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

Watershed Way

5. How are wetlands like sponges? Draw a picture of one plant and one animal you might find in a wetland.

Wetlands are like sponges because _____.

Plant Name: 	Animal Name:
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Land of Opportunity

6. Which frog is the largest at ECHO and in the Lake Champlain Basin? Read the panel and then decide if ECHO's frog is male or female. What feature about a frog tells you its sex?

The largest frog at ECHO is the _____.

The frog is female. The frog is male.

How can you tell if the frog is male or female? _____.

7. Why do some trees survive better than others in the difficult weather in an Alpine Peak area?

Some trees survive better because _____.

8. Become a weather reporter! Do your own weather report and find out what today's weather is in Burlington.

What is the temperature outside? _____ What is the level of the Lake water today? _____

9. The snapping turtle has an aggressive defensive behavior. Name 2 reasons why this turtle behave this way.

1. _____ 2. _____

Into the Lake

10. Look at all the fish in the large, square tank next to the shipwreck. How many species of fish are there?

of fish in the tank = _____

What is one feature about the sturgeon and the catfish that you notice to be different from most other fish?

The sturgeon and the catfish do not have _____.



1. There are several different longnose gar and they are all different lengths. Everyone may get a different measurement.
2. No, these animals don't live in Lake Champlain today. We know that they don't live here because they are salt water animals, and Lake Champlain is a freshwater lake. They used to live in this region when the water was salty. After the glacier receded, the ocean flowed into the region from the north by way of the St. Lawrence Seaway. They left behind fossilized evidence.
3. The skeleton of the beluga whale was found in Charlotte, Vermont. They tell us a few things about the area. (1) The area was once salt water since beluga whales need a salt water environment to survive. (2) The region called the Champlain Sea must have been much larger than Lake Champlain as the whale skeleton was found inland by several miles from today's shoreline.
4. There is a ribbon snake and a toad. Both animals have eyes, are cold-blooded, lay eggs and eat insects. They differ in that a toad is an amphibian with slimier skin and a snake is a reptile with scales and dry skin. They move differently, too. A snake slithers on the ground and a toad hops with strong hind legs.
5. Wetlands are like sponges because they hold large amounts of water through matted leaf and root systems and expanding slowly into the surrounding areas leaving a muddy bottom rich with nutrients. There are many different types of plants and animals in wetlands. Plants include cattails, lily pads, grasses, sedges and water weeds. Animals include turtles, frogs, snakes, fish, herons, moose, muskrat and beaver.
6. The largest frog at ECHO is the American bullfrog. It is a male. You can tell this frog is a male because the outer eardrum membrane diameter is bigger than his eye.
7. Some trees survive better than others in an Alpine Peak area because their branches and needle structures are flexible even in cold weather which allows them to bend rather than break in high winds and low temperatures.
8. Find out the weather by doing a weather report!
9. The snapping turtle has an aggressive defensive behavior because its shell structure is too small to allow the turtle to pull the head, arms or legs into the shell for protection. Being a larger species, the snapping turtle is not fast on land and so uses the threatening snapping jaw to ward off predators.
10. There are four species of fish in this tank. Freshwater drum, sturgeon, catfish and the muskie. The sturgeon and the catfish do not have scales and they are both bottom feeders.

