

BayQuest Vocabulary by Fact Sheet

Introduction and Questions

Word	Definition
ecosystems	A natural community of plants and animals, each depending on the other and the environment in which they live
mg/L	Milligrams per liter. This is a concentration measurement which describes the mass of one substance (in this case dissolved oxygen) present in a liter of another substance (in this case water)
NTU	Nephelometer turbidity units as measured by a turbidimeter, which measures how cloudy water is
organism	Any living creature including plants, animals, fungi, and bacteria
organisms	Living creatures including plants, animals, fungi, and bacteria
PSU	Practical salinity units; these are units used to measure salinity and are equivalent to parts per thousand (ppt)
species	A group of living things that are similar to each other and can breed with each other; the basic grouping of living things in biology
turbidity	The level of cloudiness of water

Vocabulary by Fact Sheet

Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
Barnacles		
	arthropods	Animals that have jointed legs, bodies that have different sections, and outer shells that protect them
	calcium	A mineral that helps build strong teeth and bones and controls muscle functions
	cirri	In a barnacle, the hair-like legs that sweep about for food
	interior	Inside; the area that is inside something
	limestone	A rock mostly made up of calcium
	molting	Shedding the outer layer of skin, feathers, hair, or other animal covering
	predator	An animal that kills and eats other animals or plants (called their prey)
	whelks	Large snails in the mollusk family
Beach hopper		
	amphipods	Small, shrimp-like animals
	antennas	A pair of feelers on the heads of some insects and crustaceans that are used to feel and taste
	scavengers	Animals that eat dead plants and animals
Blue crab		
	bivalves	Shellfish such as clams that have two shells hinged together
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched

Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	megalops	Blue crabs just before they start looking like adults
	zoea	The early larval stage of crustaceans like the blue crab
Bull sharks		
	aggressive	Eager to fight
	cartilage	A tough tissue that makes up a shark's skeleton
	dorsal fins	The fins on the top side of sharks and other fishes
	predators	Animals that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals that are killed and eaten by other animals (called predators)
	skeleton	The hard structure that give animals shape and support them.
Canada geese		
	bills	Birds' hard beaks, used for eating
	breeding grounds	Places where birds go to build nests, lay eggs, and care for their young
	carnivores	Animals that eat only meat
	flock	A group of animals that stays together for protection and help in finding food
	graze	To eat plants without killing them
	herbivores	Animals that eat only plants
	migrating	Moving to another location, usually according to season
	molting	Shedding the outer layer of skin, feathers, hair, or other animal covering
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	protein	A basic part of food that bodies need; sometimes called the body's building blocks
	resident	Living in a certain area year-round
	submerged aquatic vegetation	Underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
	waterfowl	Birds that live near lakes, rivers, bays, or other bodies of water
	webbed	Connected to form a solid surface
Cattails		
	chlorophyll	The green pigment in plants that makes photosynthesis possible (and gives plants their green color)
	colonies	Groups of several individual animals or plants living together
	decompose	To decay or break down into basic elements
	densely	Crowding closely together
	habitat	A place where animals and plants naturally live or grow
	horizontally	Parallel to the horizon, the line formed where the earth meets the sky
	nutrients	The essential chemicals plants and animals need to grow and survive
	photosynthesis	The process by which green plants use water, carbon dioxide, and light from the sun to make food and oxygen
	primary producers	Green plants that make their own food
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	waterfowl	Birds that live near lakes, rivers, bays, or other bodies of water



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
Clams	brittle	Easily cracked or broken
	burrow	To dig into the ground
	dissolved oxygen	Oxygen trapped in between water molecules that plants and animals need in order to live
	gills	The organs animals living in water use to take in oxygen
	lactic acid	An acid that can build up in muscles, slowing them down
	neutralize	To make less harmful
	predator	An animal that kills and eats other animals or plants (called their prey)
	siphons	In clams, thin tubes used to draw in water and food and spit out waste
	Clam worms	algae
antennas		A pair of feelers on the heads of some insects and crustaceans; used to feel and taste
benthic		Living at the bottom of a body of water
benthos		The bottom of a body of water and the plants and animals that live there
bristle worms		A segmented worm that has pairs of tiny hairs, called bristles, on each side of their bodies
palps		Feelers attached to the mouth that allow animals to taste or touch
predators		Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
prey		Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
proboscis		A flexible tube similar to a tongue
pseudopodia		False feet that allow worms to move
segmented		Divided into smaller sections
tentacles		Flexible organs used for holding and eating
Cow nose rays	cartilage	A tough tissue that makes up a shark's skeleton
	dental plates	Flat crushing surfaces that take the place of teeth
	hatch	To come out of an egg
	migrate	To move to another location, usually according to season
	migratory	Animals that move from place to place, usually according to the season
	muzzle	The part of an animal's head that includes the mouth and nose
	poisonous	Causing injury, sickness, or death
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	school	A large group of fish swimming together
	skeletons	Hard structures that give animals shape and support them
Eastern mudsnail	algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	gastropods	Snails and snail-like animals that usually have coiled shells
	mollusk	A type of animal that has no backbone, a soft body, and a hard shell
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
Eelgrass	abundant	Plentiful; occurring in very large numbers
	chlorophyll	The green pigment in plants that makes photosynthesis possible (and gives plants their green color)
	cuticle	A waxy layer of cells that cover a plant's stems, leaves, and fruit
	decaying	Rotting; decomposing
	destroyed	Killed; smashed
	detritus	Debris; particles from dead and decaying plants and animals
	digest	To change food into substances the body can use
	dikes	Walls made of earth, built to help keep the water out of certain locations
	ecosystem	A natural community of plants and animals, each depending on the other and the environment in which they live
	erosion	The wearing away of land surfaces by wind and water
	food chain	The order of plants or animals in an ecosystem, each one eating the plant or animal before it on the chain
	grazers	Animals that feed on plants without damaging them
	insulation	Material used to keep heat from escaping a home
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	mulch	Loose material placed over the soil to help prevent erosion and allow the soil to remain moist
	photosynthesis	The process by which green plants use water, carbon dioxide, and light from the sun to make food and oxygen
	pigment	Materials in cells that give plants and animals color
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	primary producers	Green plants that make their own food
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	SAV	An abbreviation for submerged aquatic vegetation, or underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
	submerged aquatic vegetation	Underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
	upholstering	The padded surfaces of furniture
Grass cerith	algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	colonies	Groups of several individual animals or plants living together
	ecosystems	Natural communities of plants and animals, each depending on the other and the environment in which they live
	gastropod	A snail or snail-like animal that usually has a coiled shell
	grazers	Animals that feed on plants without damaging them
	hydroids	Tiny animals that grow in colonies. Hydroid colonies look like a collection of very small plants.
Grass shrimp	algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	debris	The remaining parts of something that has died or broken up



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	detritus	Debris; particles from dead and decaying plants and animals
	food chains	Orders of plants or animals in an ecosystem, each one eating the plant or animal before it on the chain
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	larval stage	The stage in development just after an animal has hatched
	molt	To shed the outer layer of skin, feathers, hair, or other animal covering
	pouch	A bag-like structure in animals
	protective	Covering or guarding from harm or injury
	rostrum	A body part, usually on the head, that resembles a bird's beak
	scavengers	Animals that eat dead plants and animals
	skeleton	The hard structure that gives animals shape and supports them
	transparent	Allowing light to pass through so that you can see what is behind
	zoaea	The early larval stage of crustaceans like the blue crab
Great Blue Heron		
	bitterns	Very small wading birds, related to herons, whose colorings makes them blend into their surroundings
	egrets	Wading birds related to herons that are generally white in color
	habitat	A place where animals and plants naturally live or grow
	lunge	To pounce or strike at; to thrust forward suddenly
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	rookeries	Areas where families of birds or animals live, breeding, nesting, and raising their young
Hermit crabs		
	abdomens	The last segments of a crustaceans' bodies, which contain the digestive organs
	algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	discarded	Thrown away; left behind
	host	In biology, an animal or plant that supports or feeds another plant or animal
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	pincer	A claw used for holding or protecting
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	segmented	Divided into smaller sections
Herring gulls		
	aggressive	Eager to fight
	colony	A group of several individual animals or plants living together
	mottled	Having spots or patches of different colors
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	regurgitates	Throws up; brings undigested food from the stomach to the mouth



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	scavengers	Animals that eat dead plants and animals
Horseshoe crabs		
	arthropods	Animals that have jointed legs, bodies that have different sections, and protective outer shells
	book gills	Breathing organs that have thin folds of membrane that look like pages in a book
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	cuticle	A waxy layer of cells that cover a plant's stems, leaves, and fruit
	migrating	Moving to another location, usually according to season
	molt	To shed the outer layer of skin, feathers, hair, or other animal covering
	nurseries	Places where eggs and young animals are cared for
	prowling	Patrolling; walking about in a secretive way
	segmented	Divided into smaller sections
	spiked	Long and sharply pointed
Mallard		
	dabbler ducks	Ducks that eat by putting only their heads and necks under water
	ducklings	Baby ducks
	hollows	Holes or spaces
	migrate	To move to another location, usually according to season
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	span	To cover or extend over an area
	waterfowl	Birds that live near lakes, rivers, bays, or other bodies of water
Menhaden		
	abundant	Plentiful; occurring in very large numbers
	forked	Divided into two branches or parts
	microscopic	Too small to be seen without the help of a magnifying device such as a microscope
Mosquito		
	antennas	A pair of feelers on the heads of some insects and crustaceans; used to feel and taste
	brackish	Water that is a combination of fresh water and salt water
	characteristics	Traits or properties that make a group of animals or plants unique
	clotting	The process through which blood changes to a solid from a liquid
	cocoon	A protective covering in which pupae develop
	food webs	Collections of food chains, all of which show the connections between predator and prey
	lactic acid	An acid that is formed when the muscles in animals work
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	nectar	A sweet liquid produced by flowers
	proboscis	A flexible tube similar to a tongue
	protein	A basic part of food that bodies need; sometimes called the body's building blocks
	pupae	Stages in animal development between the larval stage and the adult stage when great body changes take place



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	saliva	The watery fluid in the mouth that moistens food to make it easier to digest
	siphon	A thin tube creatures living under the water use to breathe
Muskrats		
	burrow	A hole or tunnel in the ground that animals use for shelter
	continuously	Always; constantly
	dens	Homes for wild animals
	graze	To eat plants without killing them
	incisors	Sharp, flat front teeth that are especially suited for cutting
	litters	Groups of young animals all born at the same time
	lodges	Dome-shaped houses made by beavers and muskrats
	mammal	A warm-blooded animal that has hair and nurses its young
	partially	Not completely, but to some degree
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	rodents	A group of small animals that have special teeth for gnawing
	rudders	A device used to steer boats
	webbed	Connected to form a solid surface
	wetland	An area such as a swamp or bog that is partially or totally covered by water
Mute swans		
	addle	To remove from the nest or cover with oil
	cygnets	Young swans
	hatchlings	Animals that have just hatched, or emerged from their eggs
	mute	Unable to speak; silent
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	submerged aquatic vegetation	Underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
	waterfowl	Birds that live near lakes, rivers, bays, or other bodies of water
Nutria		
	aggressive	Eager to fight
	continuously	Always; constantly
	destructive	Destroying; ruining
	food web	A collection of food chains, all of which show the connections between predator and prey
	graze	To eat plants without killing them
	herbivores	Animals that eat only plants
	incisors	Sharp, flat front teeth that are especially suited for cutting
	invasive	Spreading; used to talk about non-native plants or animals that come into an area and disturb it by taking the place of native plants or animals
	muzzles	Snouts, or areas on animals that includes their jaws and mouth
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	webbed	Connected to form a solid surface
	wetland	An area such as a swamp or bog that is partially or totally covered by water
Osprey		
	food chain	The order of plants or animals in an ecosystem, each one eating the plant or animal before it on the chain
	plankton	Tiny floating forms of plants and animals that are pushed about by the water current
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	sizeable	Fairly large
	talons	Sharp claws, especially on a bird of prey like an osprey
	wingspans	Distances from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other
Oysters		
	algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	beds	Groups of oysters living together
	bivalves	Shellfish such as clams that have two shells hinged together
	cilia	Small organs that look like hairs or whiskers
	community	A group of plants and animals, all living together in the same space
	decaying	Rotting; decomposing
	detritus	Debris; particles from dead and decaying plants and animals
	filter feeders	Animals that draw in water and strain bits of food from it
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	mollusk	A type of animal that has no backbone, a soft body, and a hard shell
	plankton	Tiny floating forms of plants and animals that are pushed about by the water current
	predator	An animal or plant that kills and eats other animals or plants (called their prey)
	preyed on	Eaten by
	spat	A young oyster that has attached to a hard surface
Oyster drills		
	beds	Groups of oysters living together
	colonies	A group of several plants or animals living together
	environment	The area where a plant or animal lives, including the land, the climate, and other plants and animals
	gastropods	Snails and snail-like animals that usually have coiled shells
	mollusk	A type of animal that has no backbone, a soft body, and a hard shell
	predators	Animals that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	radula	A tongue-like structure covered with sharp teeth, used to cut off small pieces of food
	siphon	A thin tube creatures living under the water use to breathe
Phragmites		
	brackish	Water that is a combination of fresh water and salt water

Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	chlorophyll	The green pigment in plants that makes photosynthesis possible (and gives plants their green color)
	common	Average or ordinary
	ecosystem	A natural community of plants and animals, each depending on the other and the environment in which they live
	hollow	Not solid; empty or unfilled
	invasive	Spreading; used to talk about non-native plants or animals that come into an area and disturb it by taking the place of native plants or animals
	invasive species	Non-native plants or animals that come into an area and disturb it by taking the place of native plants or animals
	native	Beginning and growing in a certain area
	photosynthesis	The process by which green plants use water and carbon dioxide and light from the sun to make food and oxygen.
	pigment	Materials in cells that give plants and animals color
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	stands	A group of plants growing in a particular areas
	tolerate	Put up with
	waterfowl	Birds that live near lakes, rivers, bays, or other bodies of water
	wetlands	Areas such as swamps or bogs which are partially or totally covered by water
Phytoplankton		
	algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	algal blooms	Large, sudden growth of algae, caused by too much nitrogen and phosphorus in the water
	bacteria	One-celled plants; some bacteria are helpful and some can cause diseases
	diatoms	One-celled plants that have a hard exterior covering
	filter feeders	Animals that draw in water and strain bits of food from it
	food chain	The order of plant or animals in an ecosystem, each one eating the plant or animal before it on the chain
	microscopic	Too small to be seen without the help of a magnifying device such as a microscope
	producers	Living things that make their own food; all plants are producers
Red beard sponge		
	beds	Groups of oysters living together
	bouquet	An arrangement of flowers
	cells	The small units in each living plant or animal that are sometimes called the building blocks of life
	collagen	A protein substance that helps support sponges
	colony	A group of several individual animals or plants living together
	decaying	Rotting; decomposing
	detritus	Debris; particles from dead and decaying plants and animals
	diameter	An imaginary straight line drawn from one point on the edge of a circle or circular object, through its center, to the opposite edge



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	filter feeders	Animals that draw in water and strain bits of food from it
	pores	Tiny openings in a membrane
	skeletons	Hard structures that give animals shape and support them
	spicules	Small, needle-like parts of a sponge's skeleton
	spongin	A flexible material that makes up a sponge's skeleton
	structure	The way that something is organized or built
Ribbon worms		
	carnivores	Animals that eat only meat
	mucus	A thick fluid that lubricates
	nemertine worms	Unsegmented worms that look like a long piece of flattened ribbon
	poisonous	Causing injury, sickness, or death
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	proboscis	A flexible tube similar to a tongue
	segmented	Divided into smaller sections
Ruddy turnstone		
	barnacles	Small, dome-shaped crustaceans that attach themselves to piers, rocks, jetties, and other animals
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	jetties	Man-made structures, usually of rock or stone, that stick out from the shore, helping protect beaches and harbors
	patrolling	Walking over a specific area looking for objects
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	sturdy	Strong; muscular; well-built
	tundra	A treeless plain in the Arctic region
Sea cucumber		
	collagen	A protein fiber that helps support animals like the sea cucumber
	connective tissue	Tissue, like cartilage, that supports or fastens together other body tissue or parts
	decaying	Rotting; decomposing
	detritus	Debris; particles from dead and decaying plants and animals
	Echinodermata	A type of animal found in the water that usually has five symmetrical parts
	nocturnal	Active during the night and sleeping during the day
	predator	An animal or plant that kills and eats other animals or plants (called their prey)
	protein	A basic part of food that bodies need; sometimes called the body's building blocks
	replacement	A substitute; something that takes the place of
	sediment	Material that is broken up and deposited on the bottom of a body of water, such as sand and silt
	tentacles	Flexible organs used for holding and eating
Sea nettles		
	barb	A sharp pointed body part that looks like the point on a fish hook
	distribution	Scattered over a specific area



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	tentacles	Flexible organs used for holding and eating
	toxins	Poisons
	zooplankton	Tiny animals that float on the Bay's currents; during their early development, creatures like crabs and oysters are considered to be zooplankton
Sea roaches		
	antennas	A pair of feelers on the heads of some insects and crustaceans; used to feel and taste
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	ecosystem	A natural community of plants and animals, each depending on the other and the environment in which they live
	environment	The area where a plant or animal lives, including the land, the climate, and other plants and animals
	gills	The organs animals living in water use to take in oxygen
	isopods	Crustaceans that have flat, segmented bodies
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	scavengers	Animals that eat dead plants and animals
Sea squirts		
	chordates	Animals that have spinal cords
	fungi	Simple plant-like animals such as mildew and rust
	plankton	Tiny floating forms of plants and animals that are pushed about by the water current
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	siphons	Thin tubes creatures living under the water use to breathe
	tunicate	Sac-like filter feeders that have a thick covering
Seahorses		
	chameleons	Lizards that can change color
	conservationists	People who care for and look after the earth and all its plants and creatures
	coronet	A bony part of seahorses' heads, shaped like a small crown
	declined	Gone down in number
	erect	Upright in posture, perpendicular to the ground
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
Shipworms		
	bivalves	Shellfish such as clams that have two shells hinged together
	destructive	Destroying; ruining
	hulls	The body or frame of a boat
	larval	Just after hatching
	larval stage	The stage in development just after an animal has hatched
	plankton	Tiny floating forms of plants and animals that are pushed about by the water current



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	salinity	The level of salt in a body of water
	siphons	Thin tubes creatures living under the water use to breathe
	undigested	Bits of food that have not been broken down for use by the body
Striped bass		
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	fry	Young fish
	gills	The organs animals living in water use to take in oxygen
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	migrate	To move to another location, usually according to season
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	response	A reaction
	schools	Large groups of fish swimming together
Sturgeon		
	barbels	Whisker-like parts that jut out of the face parts of some fish
	bottom feeders	Animals or plants that live in or on the bottom of a body of water
	caviar	Fish eggs
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	nurseries	Places where eggs and young animals are cared for
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
	scales	Thin overlapping flat plates that protect fish and reptiles
	scutes	Protective bony plates that take the place of scales
	sediment	Material that is broken up and deposited on the bottom of a body of water, such as sand and silt
	snouts	Hard parts on the front of the faces of fishes (similar to noses)
	tributaries	Rivers that flow into larger rivers or other bodies of water
Terrapins		
	brackish	Water that is a combination of fresh water and salt water
	keratin	The tough protein that makes up hair, skin, and nails
	merchandise	Items for sale
	protein	A basic part of food that bodies need; sometimes called the body's building blocks
	scutes	Protective bony plates that take the place of scales
Toadfish		
	camouflage	Colored patterns that make something hard to see
	crustaceans	Animals such as crabs and lobsters that have a hard outer shell and jointed legs
	enormous	Huge; giant
	gills	The organs animals living in water use to take in oxygen
	gravity	The force that pulls bodies to the center of the earth, giving them weight
	lure	To encourage to do something



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	omnivores	Animals that eat both plants and animals
	oyster bars	Underwater areas where oysters grow
	prey	Animals and plants that are eaten by other plants and animals
	sediment	Material that is broken up and deposited on the bottom of a body of water, such as sand and silt
	swim bladder	An air sac that helps keep fish floating in the water
	threatening	Hostile and aggressive
	twitching	Jerking or trembling
Widgeon grass		
	arthropods	Animals that have jointed legs, bodies that have different sections, and protective outer shells
	chlorophyll	The green pigment in plants that makes photosynthesis possible (and gives plants their green color)
	cuticle	A waxy layer of cells that cover a plant's stems, leaves, and fruit
	erosion	The wearing away of land surfaces by wind and water
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched
	nutrients	The essential chemicals plants and animals need to grow and survive
	photosynthesis	The process by which green plants use water, carbon dioxide, and light from the sun to make food and oxygen
	pigment	Materials in cells that give plants and animals color
	primary producers	Green plants that make their own food
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	SAV	An abbreviation for submerged aquatic vegetation, or underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
	sediments	Material that is broken up and deposited on the bottom of a body of water, such as sand and silt
	slender	Thin
	submerged aquatic vegetation	Underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
Wild Celery		
	Algae	Very small one-celled plants that often grow in colonies
	Algal blooms	Large, sudden growth of algae, caused by too much nitrogen and phosphorus in the water
	chlorophyll	The green pigment in plants that makes photosynthesis possible (and gives plants their green color)
	erosion	The wearing away of land surfaces by wind and water; a natural process in which rocks and soils are broken down by wind and water
	nutrient	An essential chemical plants and animals need to grow and survive
	photosynthesis	The process by which green plants use water, carbon dioxide, and light from the sun to make food and oxygen
	pigment	Materials in cells that give plants and animals color
	primary producers	Green plants that make their own food



Fact Sheet	Word	Definition
	rhizomes	Plant stems that grow underground, parallel to the surface, from which roots and stems grow
	Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)	underwater plants that grow in shallow areas of the Bay
	tributaries	Rivers that flow into larger rivers or other bodies of water
	waterfowl	Birds that live near lakes, rivers, bays, or other bodies of water
Wood duck		
	crest	A showy growth of feathers
	crested	Having a showy growth of feathers on the head
	dabbler	Ducks that eat by putting only their heads and necks under water
	drakes	Male ducks
	ducklings	Baby ducks
	endangered	In danger of disappearing or becoming extinct
	habitat	A place where animals and plants naturally live or grow
	iridescent	Showing a rainbow-like display of changing colors
	migrate	To move to another location, usually according to season
	omnivores	Animals that eat both plants and animals
	perch	To sit on a resting place
	predators	Animals and plants that kill and eat other animals or plants (called their prey)
Zooplankton		
	consumers	Living things that cannot produce its own food; it gets its energy by eating, or consuming, other animals or plants
	copepod	Tiny crustaceans (less than 1/8 inch in diameter, that have forked tails and long bodies)
	larvae	Animals that have just hatched