MIDDLE SCHOOL INDOOR EXHIBIT GUIDE

Answers can be found by reading exhibit signs or by observing animals in their habitats.

VIRGINIA’S COASTAL PLAIN GALLERY (Upper Level)

Look at the large fish in the Chesapeake Bay Aquarium. What do these fish represent?

A. Prey at the bottom of the food chain   B. Apex predators   C. Producers

CYPRESS SWAMP (Upper Level)

Why are wetlands important to the health of Virginia’s ecosystems? Wetlands… (Circle all that apply.):

A. …soak up excess rainwater.   B. …filter sediments.   C. …provide habitats for birds.

VIRGINIA’S PIEDMONT AND MOUNTAINS GALLERY (Upper Level)

The Appalachian Mountains are older than the Rocky Mountains   TRUE or FALSE   (Circle one.)

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN COVE (Upper Level)

During the Ice Ages, cold-climate plants like red spruce and Fraser fir grew throughout Virginia. Why are these kinds of plants now limited to Virginia’s higher elevations?

A. Beetles killed off trees at lower elevations   B. Lower elevation soils contain too much magnesium   C. As the climate changed, they could not survive at the warmer lower elevations

VIRGINIA’S UNDERGROUND GALLERY (Lower Level)

Fossils from the Yorktown Formation (3.5-5 million years ago) show that the eastern part of Virginia was…

A. …once covered by ocean water   B. …once covered by glaciers   C. …once a desert
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OTTER EXHIBIT

What adaptations help an otter to be a fast swimmer? (Circle all that apply.)

A. Webbed toes  B. Streamlined body  C. Valves in their ears and nose to keep out water

COASTAL PLAIN AVIARY

Cattle egrets have long, sharp, pointed beaks to…


RED WOLF EXHIBIT

When did red wolves become temporarily extinct in the wild?

A. 1830  B. 1930  C. 1980  D. Never

BALD EAGLE EXHIBIT

Bald eagles develop white head and tail feathers when they are…

A. 6 months old  B. 4 or 5 years old  C. Over 10 years old

DINOSAUR TRAIL

Which of these dinosaurs lived during the Cretaceous Period? (Circle all that apply.)

A. Stegosaurus  B. Tenontosaurus  C. Hypsilophodon  D. T-rex

COYOTE EXHIBIT

The musical howl of a coyote can be heard for miles.  TRUE  or  FALSE  (Circle one)