

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Exploring Marine Science at the Seymour Center

# Asking Questions (Aquarium Tanks): Scavenger Hunt



SEYMOUR CENTER AT LONG MARINE LABORATORY

*Read all the questions below, then choose at least three to answer from this area.*

1. What are some questions a scientist could ask when looking at your favorite aquarium tank? What, specifically, might she/he do to answer those questions?
2. Look at the “Sandy Seafloor” tank. Describe how these animals are adapted to survive in their sandy environment.
3. Why is the tank holding the jellies round?
4. What must crabs do in order to grow larger?
5. Find and describe five species of camouflaged animals.
6. Sketch one of your favorite animals on display in a tank. Label it with your observations.

## Exploring Marine Science at the Seymour Center

# Asking Questions (Aquarium Tanks): ANSWER KEY



SEYMOUR CENTER AT LONG MARINE LABORATORY

*Read all the questions below, then choose at least three to answer from this area.*

1. **What are some questions a scientist could ask when looking at your favorite aquarium tank? What, specifically, might she/he do to answer those questions?**  
Many possible responses.

2. **Look at the “Sandy Seafloor” tank. Describe how these animals are adapted to survive in their sandy environment.**

Animals may change color to match the sea bottom (camouflage), bury themselves in the sand and/or lie flat on the seabed (it’s helpful if they have both eyes on top of their head).

3. **Why is the tank holding the jellies round?**

The jellies’ tank is round so they don’t get caught in any corners and tear their bodies.

4. **What must crabs do in order to grow larger?**

They must molt, shedding their old shell and growing a new one.

5. **Find and describe five species of camouflaged animals.**

Possible responses:

1. sanddab / flounder – flat body, can change color to match its surroundings
2. skate – flat body, grayish color helps it blend in, has dark spots on its back to deter predators
3. feather star – looks like a plant
4. rock fish – shadings and markings similar to rocks and surroundings
5. leopard shark – light on bottom, dark on top, broken pattern

6. **Sketch one of your favorite animals on display in a tank. Label it with your observations.**

Various responses