

Between the Tides (K-2)

Lesson Summary

Learning Outcomes

- The East River is a tidal strait which has an intertidal zone.
- Different animals are adapted to different zones (low, medium, or high) within the intertidal zone.
- We can find and identify biotic and abiotic items in the intertidal zone.

Vocabulary

Tide - the rising and falling of the surface of the ocean that occurs twice a day

Tidal Strait - narrow body of water connecting to the ocean on both ends

Intertidal Zone - the area of the shore between low-tide and high-tide

Brackish Water - water that has a salinity content between salt and fresh water

Biotic - something that is or was alive or was part of something alive (ex. feather, crab, stick)

Abiotic - not biotic (ex. rock, plastic, sand)

Natural - something produced by nature (ex. rock, sand)

Anthropogenic - something produced by humans (ex. plastic)

Beachcombing - searching along a shoreline

Summary of Trip Activities

Trip activities may occur in a different order and/or the class may be shortened if your group is late. The educators may also change elements based on their assessment of students' needs.

Introduction to the Intertidal Zone

While sitting on picnic benches, we will learn about the intertidal zone of the East River. There will be an opportunity to stand and look at the intertidal zone.

Organisms of the Intertidal Zone

Working in small groups, students will use clues to match the organisms that live in the East River intertidal zone to their correct zone (low, medium, high).

Introduction to Beachcombing

While standing, we will learn how to classify the items they may find on the beach into several categories. They will also learn what objects on the beach they should not touch (glass and feathers).

Beachcombing

Students will be split into small groups and each group will be provided with a beachcombing guide and container. We will then walk to the beach where students will be able to roam the beach. At the end of class, groups will be asked to share out their objects.