



III - Bayouside Classroom Field Trip to LUMCON

Benchmarks

- LS-M-C3 Investigate major ecosystems, recognize physical properties and organisms in each
- LS-M-C4 Explain interaction and interdependence of living and non-living components in ecosystems

Objectives

- The field trip gives students an opportunity to conduct sampling downstream in the estuary and tour the excellent marine research facility that rises unexpectedly from the marsh at the end of Highway 56.
- TSWBAT:
 - Describe effect of respiration and photosynthesis on concentration of dissolved oxygen
 - Name different classes of animals that live in estuaries and name different species that live in sampling sites around the estuary.
 - Explain which physical and biological processes contributing to estuarine ecosystem functioning, and how this controls observed water quality, vegetation, and fauna.

Vocabulary

Photosynthetic plankton	Photosynthesis
Continental shelf	Respiration
Phytoplankton	Zooplankton
Nekton	Invertebrates
Fish	Mammals

Activities

1 Water sampling will be done at two or three sites (depending on time constraints which will vary with traveling time). We will divide your 30 students into smaller groups with separate LUMCON instructors who will take them to different sites to cut down on traffic. Instructors will emphasize observations that contribute to understanding the benchmarks.

2 Data Entry will be done as time permits. It is important to get the information to the computer as soon as possible, but this can be done away from LUMCON. Our focus with this is more to put the sampling results into the context of the sampling site, and sometimes this is adequately handled in the field. Please make sure the data are entered promptly.

3 Tour of LUMCON. The guided tour of LUMCON will probably be conducted with the teams still separated, because students seem to have a better experience when there are fewer of them on the tour. The tour will again emphasize the benchmarks as Instructors take the students through the Tower, Collections Room, Library, Aquariums, and some lab spaces at LUMCON. IN addition, the tour will introduce what our scientists do here, interesting information about the facility itself, and educational opportunities the students should be aware of for the future.