

# Manatee Sanctuary Area

**What is a manatee sanctuary?** A manatee sanctuary area is area that is off limits to human activity.

**How is a manatee sanctuary created?** A manatee sanctuary is created through scientific research. Scientists consider what areas are vital to manatee survival based on water temperature and areas where they can feed and rest without being disturbed.

**What is the best way for you to view manatees?** In order to ensure that the manatees stay undisturbed and safe you should look but never touch manatees.

**Where can you find manatees?** Manatees can be found in shallow, slow-moving rivers, estuaries, saltwater bays, canals, and coastal areas. In the winter months you are more likely to find manatees in Florida and in the summer months they are most commonly sighted in Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina.

**What type of behavior can you expect from a manatee?** Manatees are known as gentle, slow moving animals that spend a lot of time resting, eating, and traveling as they are migratory animals.

**What types of legal protection is there for manatees?** Manatees located in the United States are protected under federal law by the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Harassing, hunting, capturing, or killing any marine mammals are illegal due to these laws.

**How long do manatees live?** The average lifespan of a manatee is 60 years or more.

**What are some of the dangers manatees face?** Deadly collisions with watercrafts, swallowing fish hooks or liter, and loss of habitat.

## **Objectives:**

### **First Grade:**

Raise questions about the manatees and ask appropriate how do you know questions-discuss questions in groups.

Use a map and locate a manatee sanctuary.

Write a summary describing what you learned today about manatees.

Compare and order whole numbers at least to 100.

**Science:**

SC.1.N.1.1 Raise questions about the natural world, investigate them in teams through free exploration, and generate appropriate explanations based on those explorations.

SC.1.N.1.4 Ask "how do you know?" in appropriate situations.

Get into groups and discuss questions you have about manatees with your group.

**Social Studies:**

SS.1.G.1.1 Use physical and political/cultural maps to locate places in Florida.

Use a map and locate a manatee sanctuary.

**Reading and Language Arts:**

LA.1.4.2.1 The student will write in a variety of informational/expository forms (e.g., rules, summaries, recipes, notes/messages, labels, instructions, graphs/tables);

Write a summary describing what you learned about manatees today.

**Mathematics:**

MA.1.A.2.1 Compare and order whole numbers at least to 100.

Imagine that you have numerous manatee sanctuaries and each sanctuary has a different amount of manatees in it.

Sanctuary 1: 29 manatees

Sanctuary 2: 18 manatees

Sanctuary 3: 39 manatees

Sanctuary 4: 52 manatees

Sanctuary 5: 7 manatees

Sanctuary 6: 64 manatees

Sanctuary 7: 88 manatees

Sanctuary 8: 70 manatees

Sanctuary 9: 10 manatees

Sanctuary 10: 99 manatees

Sanctuary 11: 40 manatees

Organize the sanctuaries based on the number of manatees from smallest to greatest.