

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:

Fourth Grade:

Understand how scientists use evidence to designate areas as manatee sanctuaries.

Locate a manatee sanctuary on a map.

Describe some of the physical features that are important when designating an area a manatee sanctuary.

Write a short story or poem about manatees including facts from today, appropriate format, and figurative language.

Understand how to find the area of a rectangle using the base x height = area formula.

Science:

SC.4.N.1.7 Recognize and explain that scientists base their explanations on evidence. How do you think scientists used evidence in order to determine what areas should be designated manatee sanctuaries?

Social Studies:

SS.4.G.1.1 Identify physical features of Florida.

Use a map and identify some of the physical features of Florida such as oceans, lakes, swamps, etc. Also locate a manatee sanctuary and describe some of the physical features that are important when determining if an area is a manatee sanctuary.

Reading and Language Arts:

LA.4.4.1.2 The student will write a variety of expressive forms (e.g., short story, poetry, skit, song lyrics) that employ figurative language (e.g., simile, metaphor, onomatopoeia, personification), rhythm, dialogue, characterization, plot, and/or appropriate format. Write a short story or poem about manatees. Include facts that you learned today about manatees, use appropriate format and figurative language such as similes, metaphors, or personification.

Mathematics:

MA.4.G.3.2 Justify the formula for the area of the rectangle "area = base x height".

Imagine that a manatee sanctuary is in the shape of a rectangle with the given dimensions. What is the area of the rectangle?

