



Peconic Estuary
Partnership
Kids' Activity Booklet

Do you live in the
Peconic Estuary
watershed?
Mark it on the map!



Show us your completed booklet using #PEPKids on social media!

All About Eelgrass

Did you know...seahorses are native to our area? This one is called a lined seahorse and it is hiding in the eelgrass.

What is eelgrass? This is a type of grass that grows underwater. It gets its name from its eel-like shape!

It provides important habitat for bay scallops, blue crabs, fish, sea horses and many other aquatic animals.

However, eelgrass beds have been in decline for the last century. One reason is because of something called "Wasting Disease" which wiped out most eelgrass in the 1930s. Now, eelgrass faces other threats from boating activities, shellfishing, and poor water quality.

There are many ways that people around the Peconic Estuary can help protect eelgrass, even from land. Visit seagrassli.org and under "Conservation" click "What Can I Do?"

Photo courtesy of Kim Manzo, CCE



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County

Answers: osprey, ecosystem, habitat, water, fish, saltmarsh, marine, horseshoe crab, shellfish, natives

Word Scramble!

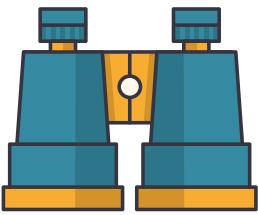
tsnaiev	sifh
lshflehis	rtew
osreeohs arch	bhtaiat
aeirm	eescotmys
tlsaamrhs	sopery

Word Search!

T L R C N U L K D M Q K N M K Y N B N X
T N E M N O R I V N E B R M T T E E O K
P H P P E T I Z R F A E L A F N T A I V
V E V U C R H T I C T M A Q S S C C T J
V R C T A J U S C A P L W E L E Y H U R
J U I O B T H T W E E L G R A S S E L A
Q B C N N I Y T A F T U B M E I I S L F
S R O E N I L H V N R O H R V S K W O U
G N L G L A C J J X P D R I B A E S P O
Z K D H S C Q D I Y E H V P E W L C J K

Word Bank

- Beaches
Eelgrass
Environment
Fishing
Nature
Peconic
Pollution
Protection
Saltwater
Seabird



What animal am I?

- 1.) In the Spring, I migrate in large schools from the ocean to the rivers. _____
2.) They might be hard to see, but I have 18 pairs of eyes! _____
3.) I can alter the colors of my body to blend in with the seafloor, hiding from predators and prey. _____
4.) They call us "living fossils" because my ancestors existed 200 million years before dinosaurs! _____
5.) I only eat fish and can dive up to 100 feet deep to catch my prey! _____
6.) In the winter you might see me sunbathing on rocks near Montauk. _____

All these animals live in the Peconic Estuary!



A. Horseshoe crab



B. Alewife



C. Osprey



D. Bay scallop



E. Flounder



F. Harbor seal

Oregon Coast Aquarium

Answers: 1.) B, 2.) D, 3.) E, 4.) A, 5.) C, 6.) F

Circle the better choice for the environment.

