

Name:

Date of Visit:

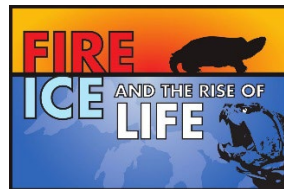
Natural History Research Project

Let's begin our natural history research project by visiting the Great Lakes Aquarium in Duluth, Minnesota!

The Aquarium models a number of habitats from the Great Lakes and around the world. With exhibits featuring hundreds of species, there are research topics galore.

As you tour through the aquarium, mark off as you visit the exhibits listed below. As you tour, take notes about what interests you.

Have a wonderful time!



Origins – Fire, Ice and the Rise of Life

Explore the geologic, natural and cultural history of the Lake Superior region. Get nose to nose with a snapping turtle, admire chambered nautilus and ponder the fossil record.

CONSIDER: What is a glacier? How was Lake Superior formed? How do fossils tell us the story of animals that once lived here? What are some of the fossilized animals? How did pre-historic and paleo-peoples survive?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

□ [Baptism River](#)



Steep volcanic rocks make a cold fast moving aquatic habitat in this unique North Shore river.

CONSIDER: How do North Shore rivers compare to South Shore rivers? Why is the Baptism River a good habitat for trout? Have you ever been fly fishing?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

□ [Aviary](#)



The aviary is home to a variety of wetland birds and reptiles that may be found on the south shore of Lake Superior in places such as Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and Kakagon Slough.

CONSIDER: How are estuaries important to birds and reptiles? What are the adaptations of birds or reptiles found on the south shore of Lake Superior? What does it mean to *conserve our environment* or to *protect endangered species*?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

[St. Louis River](#)



The largest river flowing into Lake Superior is home to a variety of temperate fish species.

CONSIDER: How does having a slow moving river determine the types of fish that can live there? How are forest habitats and wetlands that line the river important?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

[Freshwater Forest](#)



This exhibit demonstrates the important role our forest play in protecting and enhancing water quality. Complete with a fishing boat and climbing tree, it was developed to celebrate the centennial of the Superior National Forest.

CONSIDER: How are forests are important to lakes and rivers? What is *forest management*, *recreation*, and *stewardship*? How would you plan a trip to go camping or canoeing in a National Forest?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:



[Shipwrecks Alive! New July 2014](#)

Explore the fascinating world of sunken ships and the diverse wildlife ecosystems they attract and sustain.

CONSIDER:

Why do shipwrecks become habitats? Who lives there? Are there different types of shipwreck habitats? How were shipwrecks caused throughout history?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

[Isle Royale](#)



Get a glimpse of fish that live in the waters around Isle Royale, the largest island in Lake Superior. In another of these large tanks see fish found in the warm bays and estuaries around Lake Michigan and Lake Erie.

CONSIDER:

Why do different fish species need different water temperatures? What is special about each species of fish?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

[Aquatic Invaders](#)



Home to intruders such as goldfish, sea lamprey and round gobies. Get a closer look at invasive species found in the Great Lakes.

CONSIDER: How do invasive species of fish, plants, and invertebrates compete with native species? How do invasive species hitch rides to new locations? Which invasive species do you like the least?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

[Amazing Amazon](#)



The Amazon River, the largest freshwater river in the world, is home to a rich diversity of species. Learn more about how this habitat impacts your life wherever you live.

CONSIDER:

How does the Amazon River impact the world's climate and weather patterns? What can we compare about the adaptations of animals living in the Amazon River estuary to animals living in the Flagg River estuary?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS:

[Wow of Water](#)



Get your hands wet exploring the wonders of water!

CONSIDER: How does a hydroelectric dam work? How do locks work? Why is a wastewater treatment plant important? What is a *seiche*? What are the weather patterns of Lake Superior? How can we prevent pollution?

MY IDEAS and OBSERVATIONS: