

Delta Swamp Web of Life Student Page

Complete the food web on the other side using the clues below and filling in each box with the correct entry. The animals highlighted in **bold** can be found in the Delta Swamp Gallery. You may need to follow your observations with research in the classroom or at home to complete the web. For every animal you find, place an “X” next to its name on the **Web of Life Cast** below. Don’t expect to see a feeding frenzy when you visit the Delta Swamp; we feed all our animals, minimizing the feeding that otherwise would occur in the real world. *You don’t have to actually visit the Delta Swamp to complete the web – use the clues and your thinking skills!*

Web of Life Cast

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| alligator | carp | gray rat snake | opossum | river cooter |
| alligator snapping turtle | chicken turtle | human | plants | shiner |
| box turtle | crayfish | insects | purple gallinule | slider |
| bullfrog | field mouse | mosquitofish | red shoulder hawk | sunfish |
| | | | | wood duck |

Web of Life Clues

1. These living things use energy from the sun to make food and form the base of this web.
2. Some of these feed upon each other while others chow down on Box #1.
3. From a distance, this creature looks like a miniature lobster.
4. This small mammal relies on keen hearing and speed to “squeak” by predators.
5. One of the reptiles in this web is quite the herbivore. Which one?
6. No, it doesn’t have a black eye but when sunlight hits the scales, you’ll notice it!
7. Representing the omnivores, this reptile is definitely a landlubber.
8. When you’re not choosy about what you eat, you can be a big fish in a small swamp.
9. Have you ever heard of an amphibian named Jeremiah?
10. Although this fish has a fondness for a certain type of food, it really isn’t that picky.
11. You’d strut around too if you had this for plumage.
12. Watch where you’re going; you may “quack” up.
13. Some reptiles are omnivores; with a name like this, the food must just ease on down.
14. And then this reptile enjoys the carnivore reputation; its name includes the prey.
15. This fish can be quite fierce, especially when defending its nest.
16. An omnivorous marsupial, this critter ambles around searching for food.
17. This carnivore enjoys warm updrafts, especially when searching for prey.
18. Its prey wouldn’t call this reptilian carnivore by its name, or else...
19. Near the top of the food web, this carnivore pretty much eats what it wants to.
20. Also near the top of the food web, this reptile likes to lure its prey in for a meal.
21. Another top of the food web critter, this mammal qualifies as a definite omnivore.