

## Vocabulary

**Adapt-** To adjust to new conditions.

**Brackish-** A term used to describe a system that is not completely saline or completely fresh; often fluxing between the two extremes.

**Carapace-** The top half of a turtle's shell.

**Conservationist-** A person whose job it is to protect and preserve wildlife.

**Dominate-** To rule over.

**Emerge-** To come out.

**Endangered-** A species that is in danger of extinction.

**Endemic-** Being found in only one geographic location. Unique to a certain locality.

**Excrete-** To throw off or eliminate from the body.

**External-** On the outside.

**Extinction-** The destruction or wiping out of something.

**Hatchling-** A baby that is newly emerged from its egg.

**Herpetofauna-** The population of reptiles and amphibians inhabiting a specific area.

**Incubation-** The time during which an egg develops while getting ready to hatch.

**Intertidal Zone-** Littoral zone, the foreshore. The ocean floor is covered by the highest normal tides and exposed by the lowest normal tides and the water environment of the tide pools within this zone.

**Mangrove-** A tropical maritime tree or shrub of the genus *Rhizophora* bearing fruit that germinates while still on the tree and having numerous prop roots that ultimately form an impenetrable mass and play an important role in land building.

**Non-venomous-** not poisonous

**Plastron-** The bottom half of a turtle's shell.

**Predator-** An animal that lives by killing and eating other animals.

**Prescribed Burning-** The controlled application of fire to existing naturally occurring fuels under specified environmental conditions, following appropriate precautionary measures, so that the fire is confined to a predetermined area and accomplishes the planned land management objectives.

**Scutes-** A layer of thin horn-like material made up of scales or plates

**Streamlined-** Sleek, designed to move quickly through air or water.

**USFWS:** United States Fish and Wildlife Service

**Venom-** Poison that the snake puts into its prey with its fangs.