

Barrier Island Basics and Sea-level Rise

Words to Know

Overview

Students will complete a crossword puzzle using vocabulary learned in the module.

Grade Level

6th - 12th

Materials

- pencil
- crossword

Time Required

30 minutes

Objectives

Students will review important terms used to describe the geomorphology, the effects of sea-level rise, and the plants and animals of barrier islands.

National Science Education Standards

Standard F: Science in Personal and Social Perspectives

- Natural resources

Procedure

1. Students will study the clues, then write the correct word in the right place on the crossword.
2. Once the crossword is completed, on the back of the worksheet, have the students use each word in a sentence.
3. Have students trade their crossword and sentences with a classmate and quiz each other to make sure they know the words well.

Discussion

Which words were the most challenging to learn?

What is your favorite sea-level rise term that you learned?

What was the most interesting thing you learned about barrier islands?



National Park Service

www.nps.gov



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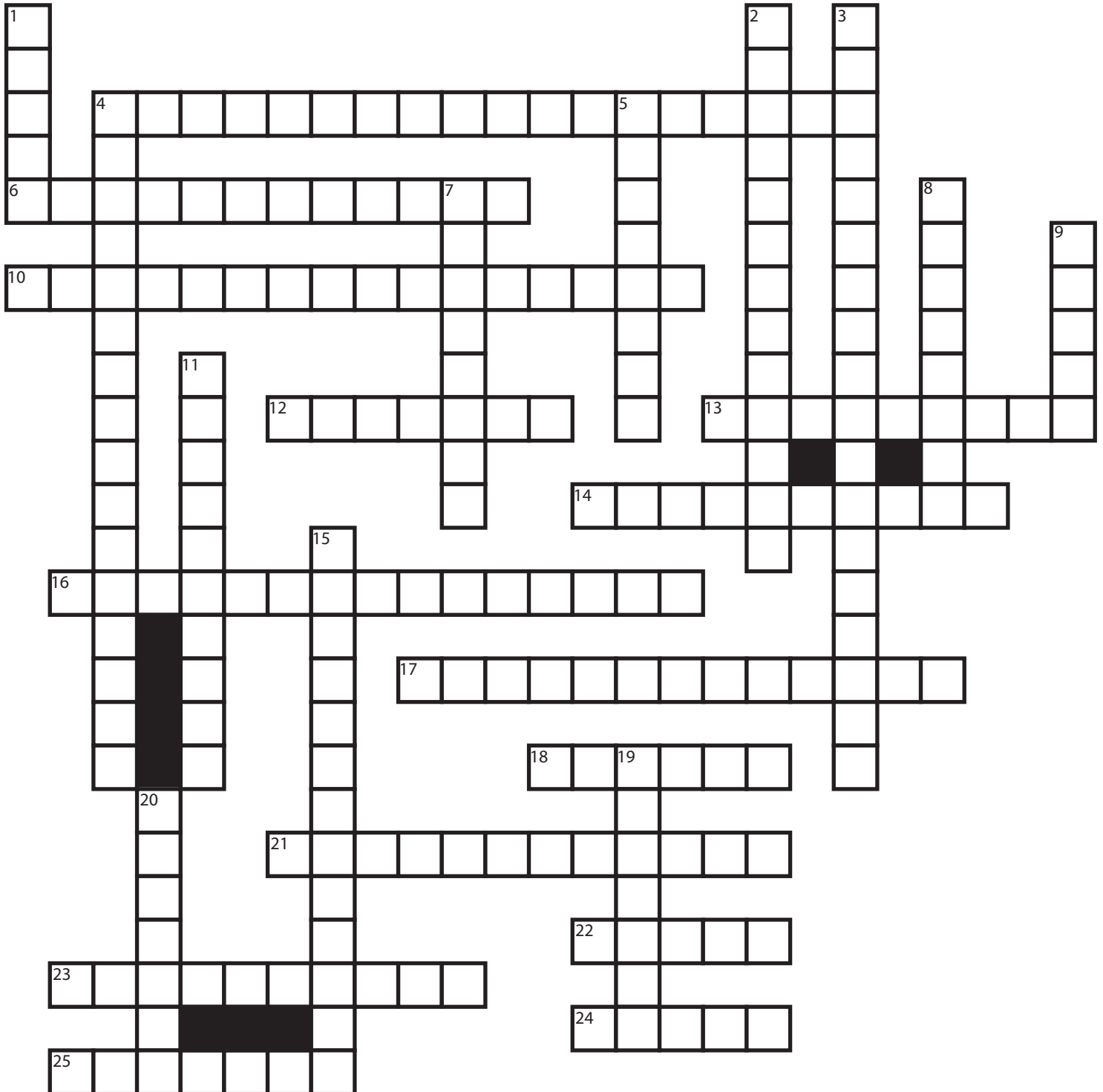
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Barrier Island Basics and Sea-level Rise: Words to Know

Name: _____

Period: _____



Barrier Island Basics and Sea-level Rise: Words to Know

Student Crossword Puzzle Clues

Instructions: Write in the word that best matches the crossword clue to find the missing vocabulary terms.

Across:

4. When sea-level rises, the underground movement of saltwater into fresh groundwater.
6. A change in the volume of the world's oceans due to expansion as the oceans warm and to land-based ice melting.
10. As water temperatures increase, the molecules of the water get further apart and take up more space.
12. The average weather in a place over many years.
13. A saltwater habitat influenced by tides that supports wetland plants and animals.
14. The surface landscape features of an area.
16. Small depressions where rainwater collects and provides resources for plants and animals.
17. The scientific study of landforms and the processes that shape them.
18. When storm surge breaks through a barrier island completely to the bay, cutting it into two islands.
21. A small migratory shorebird that nest on Assateague Island.
22. The regular rise and fall of the ocean surface that occurs twice a day.
23. The upper surface of groundwater that may rise or fall due to sea-level rise and saltwater intrusion.
24. A narrow channel of water that separates barrier islands from one another.
25. An area of low-lying land that is saturated with water part, if not all, of the year.

Down:

1. Hills of windblown sand that form above the high tide line on a beach.
2. Changes in air and water temperatures and alterations in long-term weather patterns due to greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
3. The offshore movement of sand or sediment by a parallel ocean current.
4. A very rare plant that grows on the ocean overwash areas of Assateague Island.
5. The natural process of a barrier island migrating closer geographically to the mainland.
7. Plants that grow underwater in bays between a barrier island and the mainland.
8. The natural process of sand and saltwater washing over the dunes, clearing vegetation in its path.
9. A habitat of high recreational use where people enjoy swimming, fishing, and surfing.
11. Water that is pushed toward the shore by the force of storm winds and waves.
15. A dynamic landform that is separated from the mainland coastline by a bay and that protects the mainland from powerful storms.
19. When waves carve out and wash away beach sand from a barrier island.
20. The place or environment where an organism naturally lives.