



*Marine Matters Curriculum 2*  
**Lesson 3 • Mud Flats • Grades 4 – 7**

**Worksheet 1 – Activity Stations**

**Station 1. Mud and Sand**

Shake the jar of mud and water. Shake the jar of sand and water. Put them both down and observe.

What happens to the particles of mud?

Can you see the creature in either jar?

How is mud different from sand?

What is it like for the animals that live in the mud?

**Station 2. Adaptations of Mud Flat Animals**

Look at the pictures of these mud flat animals: lugworm, mud shrimp, heart cockle, mud clam and bamboo worm.

Which two animals make a U shaped burrow?

Which two animals have a shell and siphons open to the surface?

Which one animal has the name of a tree that pandas like to eat?

Look at the pictures of these mud flat animals. Which of the following adaptations do they have – an animal may have more than one adaptation (from page 231 of *Beach Explorations*)? Write the number of the adaptation(s) under the animal name.

1. Thick shells
2. Protective shields or leathery skin
3. Tubes or siphons to the surface
4. Builds a protective shell house
5. Lives inside another animal
6. Anchoring device

Heart cockle

Dog Whelk

Mud Clam

Bamboo Worm

Mud Shrimp

Lug Worm



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**Station 3. Adaptations of Sand, Gravel and Mud Flat Animals**

Look at the pictures of these animals that live in a mixed sand, gravel and mud habitat. Which adaptations do they have – an animal may have more than one adaptation. Use the same list in Station 2 above. Write the number of the adaptation(s) under the animal name.

Armored Scaleworm

Hairy Gilled Worm

Orange Sea Cucumber

Green Burrowing Anemone

Pea Crab

Horse Clam

**Station 4. Mud Flat, Sandy Beach and Rocky Shore**

Look at the cross section of a mud flat.

Why do you think all the animals but one are burrowed under the ground?

What are some differences between a rocky shore, sandy beach and mud flat?

Look at the photo of the echiuroid worm, one inhabitant of mud flats.

Why do you think the echiuroid worm is called the innkeeper?

What is a slime net? How do you think it is used?