

MARSH PRE-VISIT MATERIALS

It is not necessary that the students know the answers to these questions, but to have them think about these questions before they arrive and participate in the program. While we are supplying answers to many of these questions, they are not necessarily the only answers or definitions.

1. **Where is Drayton Hall located?**

It is located on the Ashley River.

2. **Can you find Drayton Hall on a map? Can you find Charleston, SC, on a map?**

3. **How far is Drayton Hall from Charleston?**

It is approximately 13 miles upriver from Charleston.

4. **Why was Drayton Hall located on the Ashley River?**

The river was the main source of travel for people and goods when Drayton Hall was built.

5. **What is a plantation?**

A plantation is a farm where a cash crop is grown and the workforce lives on site.

6. **What were the main cash crops that were grown in Charleston and at Drayton Hall?**

The main cash crops were rice and indigo in the 18th century and rice and cotton in the 19th century.

7. **What was the main workforce that worked on plantations before the Civil War?**

Enslaved Africans and African Americans were the major workforce on plantations.

10. **What is the difference between a marsh and a swamp?**

A swamp is fresh water a marsh is salt water.

11. **What plants live in the marsh?**

Cordgrass, spartina grass, and needle grass grow in the swamp

12. **What creatures live in the swamp?**

Blue crabs, whelks, ticks, shrimp, fish, mussels, oysters, worms, clams, fiddler crabs, insects, snails, warblers, sparrows, wrens, ibis, blue herons, egrets, lizards and alligators and many others live in the swamp.

13. **How do tides affect a marsh?**

High tide every 6 hours and 6 minutes stirs up nutrients on the bottom of the marsh supplying food for shellfish and carries fish from the ocean and plankton to feed them. Low tide carries detritus (waste) to the ocean, and animals and birds come to the marsh for food.

14. **Key terms:** *algae, anole, chlorophyll, cordgrass, ecology, ecosystems, egret, environment, erosion, high tide, low tide, marsh, mortar, nutrients, organism, palmetto, pestle, pluff mud, phosphate, photosynthesis, plankton, predator, prey, Spanish moss, food chain*