

## Auditorium Programs with PowerPoints / Artifacts (no live animals)

*Suggested Grade Level: Upper Elementary – High School*

Programs include a Naturalist talk, artifacts, and access to our Nature Center, a Natural History Museum of southern Alabama ecosystems. Programs can be modified to meet specific curriculum or teacher needs. *Program length: 1 hour*



Program	Description
<b>Amazing Alligators</b>	Discover one of southern Alabama’s iconic reptiles – the American Alligator! Find out who is their closest living relative, why they are considered a keystone species, and what adaptations make them such fearsome and successful predators.
<b>Dolphins of Alabama</b>	Have you ever sat on the seashore and watched dolphin dorsal fins briefly break the surface of the water? Most of the time, this is the only glimpse we get into the lives of these majestic marine mammals. There is so much to learn about these intelligent and captivating animals and how they survive in their marine environment.
<b>Mystery of the Jellyfish</b>	Learn about one of Earth’s oldest creatures, jellyfish and their unique life history! These animals are known for their stinging abilities, but what are their greater roles in the environment? We will also identify common species of jellyfish you may encounter while exploring the coastal area!
<b>Prescribed Burns</b>	One tool that foresters use to maintain healthy habitats is prescribed burning. As one of the most important natural agents of change, fire plays a vital role in maintaining certain ecosystems.
<b>Sea Turtles of the Gulf</b>	Do you know which sea turtles live in the Gulf of Mexico? Learn about the life cycle of these amazing, ancient animals, and what threats they have faced in recent years from development, hurricanes, and oil spills. Finally, learn about the amazing volunteers who work to rescue and protect these gentle giants.
<b>Serene Sirens</b>	Manatees, sea cows, mermaids – these majestic marine mammals have been known by many names. Come to the Learning Campus or Nature Center to learn about these fascinating marine herbivores.
<b>Skates and Rays</b>	Have you met the sharks extended family? Among the creatures of the Gulf, skates and rays are unlike any other. Learn about these unique, flat fish that can be seen gracefully swimming along our shorelines.
<b>Shark!</b>	Learn about some of the 50 different species of shark that call the Gulf of Mexico home, and their unusual adaptations which permit them to thrive in a wide variety of ecosystems. Discover why these fascinating predators should be celebrated, not feared.

To schedule a Field Trip or for further information, please contact Hannah Russell, Head Naturalist at:  
[Hannah.Russell@DCNR.Alabama.gov](mailto:Hannah.Russell@DCNR.Alabama.gov)

