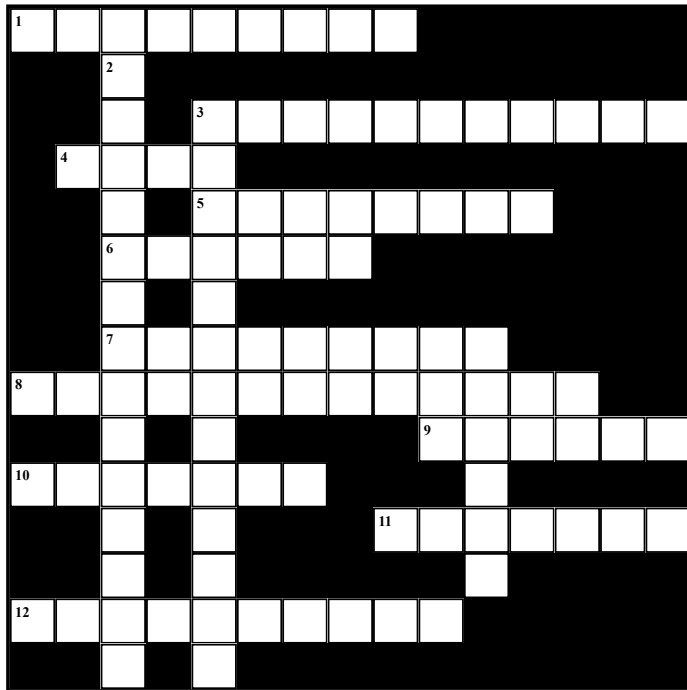


GULF MARINE LIFE CROSSWORD

Test your knowledge of Gulf Coast marine life and fishing terms!



Instructions: Fill in the crossword using the clues provided. Write one letter per square. The numbers in the squares indicate the beginning of words.

ACROSS

1. Large powerful fish popular with offshore anglers for their fighting ability (9 letters)
4. Group of dolphins that travel, hunt, and socialize together (3 letters)
6. The horizontal tail fin of a dolphin or whale (5 letters)
8. The biological sonar system dolphins use to navigate and hunt (12 letters)
10. A common bait fish in the Gulf, important food source for dolphins (6 letters)
11. Large silvery fish known for spectacular jumping, called the "silver king" (6 letters)
12. The seasonal movement of animals between different areas (9 letters)

DOWN

2. Also called redfish, a popular game fish found in Gulf shallow waters (7 letters)
3. Fish species known for their human-like teeth, adapted for crushing barnacles (10 letters)
5. Also known as king mackerel, popular sport fish known for speed (8 letters)
7. A prized deep-water fish species subject to strict fishing regulations (9 letters)
9. Small fish that serve as food sources for larger fish, dolphins, and seabirds (8 letters)

ANSWER KEY - GULF MARINE LIFE CROSSWORD

ACROSS ANSWERS

1. **AMBERJACK** - A large, powerful fish found in deeper Gulf waters, popular with offshore anglers for their fighting ability.
4. **POD** - A group of dolphins that travel, hunt, and socialize together, usually consisting of related individuals.
6. **FLUKE** - The horizontal tail fin of a dolphin or whale, used for propulsion through the water.
8. **ECHOLOCATION** - The biological sonar system dolphins use to navigate and hunt by producing clicks and interpreting the echoes.
10. **MULLET** - A common bait fish in the Gulf, important food source for dolphins, larger fish, and seabirds.
11. **TARPON** - Large, silvery fish known for their spectacular jumping ability when hooked, called the "silver king."
12. **MIGRATION** - The seasonal movement of animals between different areas, often following food sources or breeding cycles.

DOWN ANSWERS

2. **REDDRUM** - Also called redfish, a popular game fish found in Gulf shallow waters and marshes.
3. **SHEEPSHEAD** - A fish species common around jetties and pilings, known for their human-like teeth, adapted for crushing barnacles.
5. **KINGFISH** - Also known as king mackerel, a popular sport fish in the Gulf known for speed and sharp teeth.
7. **REDSNAPPER** - A prized deep-water fish species in the Gulf, subject to strict fishing regulations for conservation.
9. **BAITFISH** - Small fish (like sardines, anchovies, and menhaden) that serve as food sources for larger fish, dolphins, and seabirds.