

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Life Cycle of the Red Mangrove Tree **Answer Key**

1. *What is the embryo of the red mangrove called?*
  - a) Pneumatophore
  - b) Fruit
  - c) Seed
  - d) **Propagule**
2. *True or False - red mangrove trees are only found in Florida.*
  - a) True
  - b) **False**
3. *Red mangrove trees are “viviparous” plants. What does viviparous mean?*

### Giving live birth

4. Red mangroves can be found in \_\_\_\_\_ around the globe
  - a) Temperate forests
  - b) Desert plateaus
  - c) **Tropical and subtropical coasts**
  - d) High alpine ecosystems
5. *Before rooting into the sea floor, a propagule can keep floating for....*
  - a) A week
  - b) A month
  - c) 6 months
  - d) **Over a year**
6. *As the propagule floats through the water, what causes it to eventually turn vertically and sink to the sea floor?*
  - a) The tide shifts the direction of the propagule
  - b) **The propagule becomes waterlogged**
  - c) The top of the propagule detaches
  - d) Local wildlife move the propagules

7. How long is the embryo (propagule) before it detaches from the parent tree?
- a) 1 cm
  - b) 1 in
  - c) 6 cm
  - d) 6 in

8. Describe the adaptation that has allowed red mangroves to spread throughout tropical waters around the world.

Once they drop from the parent tree, the propagule can float for over a year before it roots into shallow soils. This allows the Earth's ocean currents to transport the propagule potentially very far from the parent tree.

9. There are 5 important stages in the life-cycle of the red mangrove: The fertilized flower, the developing propagule, the dispersed propagule, the rooted propagule, and the adult mangrove tree. Make a drawing illustrating this cycle.

