

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Florida Manatee

1. Which of the following are species of manatee? Circle all that apply.
  - a. dugong
  - b. West Indian manatee
  - c. African manatee
  - d. Amazonian manatee
  
2. What other animal is a close relative to the manatee and found in the Sirenia family?
  - a. hippopotamus
  - b. African elephant
  - c. American crocodile
  - d. elephant seal
  
3. What environmental and climate conditions do manatees prefer?
  - a. Warm tropical waters
  - b. Dense cold saltwater
  - c. Warm and and dry soils
  
4. Manatees feed on a lot of seagrass, made of abrasive plant material. Which anatomical feature is an important adaptation to their feeding habits?
  - a. Marching molars
  - b. Sharp Incisor teeth
  - c. Sensitive tongues
  
5. How do manatees find their way around in murky waters?
  - a. Sharp eyesight
  - b. Nerves in their hair follicles
  - c. Keen sense of smell
  
6. Manatees have mineralized rib bones that act as \_\_\_\_\_ to help them sink to the bottom.
  - a. ballast
  - b. buoyancy
  - c. flotation

7. What are some of the major contributors/reasons for the disappearance of manatees? Circle all that apply.

- a. Habitat loss
- b. Starvation
- c. Boat Strikes
- d. Crocodile attacks

8. How is the disappearance of seagrass meadows affecting the Florida manatee?

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9. When a manatee is spotted in the wild, it is important to practice passive observation. What does this mean?

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10. Why is the Florida manatee considered a conservation success story?

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