Mrs. Morgan’s life science classes visited the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in VA at VIMS on April 12, 2011 for a field trip! Students spent their time investigating oyster reef animals and plants using microscopes, dichotomous keys, and science notebooks.

**Oyster Reef Species List**

- Polychaete Worm
- Mud Crab
- Amphipod
- Barnacle
- Mud Snail
- Hooked Mussel
- Slipper Shell
- Sea Squirt
- Oyster

For more information about our education programs, go to www.vims.edu/cbnerr
Groups switched between the oyster lab activity and seining in the York River. Even though it was early in the season, and the threat of rain was there, we had a great day out on the water, enjoying the warm weather! Students observed the differences between the habitats and the species that are found in each. We even caught a new species for Sarah McGuire, the field trip leader and had to research the fish to determine its name. Turned out to be a Spotted Hake—an unusual catch for this beach!

**Shallow Water Species List**

- Blue Crab
- Sea Squirt
- Atlantic Silverside
- Pipefish
- Amphipod (two species!)
- Bay Anchovy
- Mud Snail
- Red Beard Sponge
- Sea Lettuce
- Tapered Red Weed
- Grass Shrimp
- Sand Shrimp
- Comb Jelly
- Striped Killifish
- Oyster
- Green Tufted Seaweed
- Eelgrass
- Ribbed Mussel
- Isopod
- Spotted Hake
- Jellyfish
- Mud Snail
- Skeleton Shrimp
- Razor Clam
- Hogchoker
Spotted Hake

Someone caught an amphipod

Dip netting in the York River

Searching through the nets for new species

Showing friends their catch