Peasley seventh graders visited the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in VA at VIMS on October 26th, 2012 for a field experience! Students arrived on campus, and were introduced to oyster reef communities through a lab exercise. Students used dichotomous keys and microscopes to aid in identifying different species.

Oyster Reef Species List

- Grass shrimp
- Amphipod
- Green striped anemone
- Feather blenny
- Sea squirt
- Polychaete worm
- Lacy crust bryozoan
- Sea lettuce
- Barnacle
- Tapered red weed
- Slipper shell
- Oyster flatworm
- Mud crab
- Skilletfish

For more information about our education programs, go to www.vims.edu/cbnerr
Students also explored the shallow water habitats of the York River. Students used seine and dip nets to collect a variety of species and studied them in an aquarium before letting them go at the end of the day.

**Shallow Water Species List**

- Pipefish
- Blue crab
- Atlantic silverside
- Mud snail
- Grass shrimp
- Red beard sponge
- Anchovy
- Amphipod
- Sea lettuce
- Tapered red weed
- Striped killifish
- Tonguefish
- Northern Kingfish

*Enjoying the York River!*

*Lots of collections!*
Thanks for a great day Peasley Middle School 7th graders!