Ms. White’s 3B class visited the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in VA at VIMS on May 11, 2011 for a field trip! Students spent the first part of their day at VIMS investigating the shallow water habitat. Students used dip nets and seines to collect species and then observed them in an aquarium. Students also collected water quality information about the York River.

Shallow Water Species List

- Lions Mane Jellyfish
- Blue Crab
- Pipefish
- Mud Crab
- Grass Shrimp
- Comb Jelly
- Summer Flounder
- Oyster
- Atlantic Silverside
- Green Tufted Seaweed
- Sea Lettuce
- Brown Fuzz
- Tapered Red Weed
- Amphipod
- Isopod (two types)
- Barnacle
- Eelgrass
- Slipper Shell
- Green Striped Anemone
- Sand Shrimp
- Hermit Crab
- Rainwater Killifish
- Croaker
- Tonguefish
- Mud Snail

For more information about our education programs, go to www.vims.edu/cbnerr
Grass Shrimp

Blue Crab

Looking through the seine

Seining

Dip netting

Grass Shrimp
After lunch, students moved the investigation inside to compare the shallow water habitat to an oyster reef habitat. Searching through habitat cages full of oyster shells, students used dichotomous keys and microscopes to key out 5 species with their partners.

### Oyster Reef Species List

- Mud Crab
- Sea Squirt
- Polychaete Worm
- Red Beard Sponge
- Hooked Mussel
- Lacy Crust Bryozoan
- Mounded back Isopod
- Barnacle
- Eelgrass pillbug
- Blue Crab
- Oyster
- Amphipod
- Skeleton Shrimp
- Green Striped Anemone

### Water Quality Parameters

- **Salinity**: 13 ppt
- **Dissolved Oxygen**: 16.8 mg/L
- **Temperature**: 19.2°C (approx. 67°F)
- **pH**: 8.4