

## Florida Cooter



The name Cooter originates from the African word “kuta” meaning turtle. This cold-blooded reptile must spend lots of time sunning itself for warmth.

## Wax Myrtle



A shrub whose waxy berries were used by settlers to make candles. Native Americans also used the leaves for insect repellent.

## Mosquitofish



Look just beneath the water’s surface for this fish, which gets its name from the large amount of mosquito larvae in its diet. Females give birth to live young.

## Lichen



Lichens are a combination of fungus and algae. The fungus provides cover for the algae from UV rays and the algae provides food for the fungi.

## Pig Frog



A large frog (up to 6.5 inches) found in wet areas of the southeast. Makes a grunting call commonly mistaken for the sound of an alligator.

## Fragrant White Water Lily



These fragrant flowers open each morning and close each evening. The floating lily pads are rooted into the soil beneath.

## Scat (Raccoon)



Scientists call animal poop “scat.” Identifying scat can tell you what animals visited the boardwalk overnight and what they ate. Raccoon scat is typically full of berries.

## Spike Rush



This plant thrives in shallow water environments. The brown tops are the flower and seed head. Look for apple snail eggs and spider webs attached to the stalks.

## Dragonfly



Female dragonflies lay eggs just beneath the water’s surface. Dragonflies spend most of their life cycle underwater as aquatic carnivores called dragonfly nymphs.