

Revealing Refuges

OBJECTIVE

Students will learn some of the counties and locations where manatees can be found throughout the state of Florida.

MATERIALS

- Florida map
- copies of activity sheet on page 15
- pens or pencils

ACTION

1. Using a Florida map, locate the areas listed below. Many of these areas are winter *refuges* for manatees. Label each area next to its location on the map.
 - Miami Shores Area (Dade County)
 - Indian River (Brevard County)
 - Waccasassa Bay (Levy County)
 - Palm Beaches Area (Palm Beach County)
 - St. John's River/Blue Spring (Volusia County)
 - Caloosahatchee River (Lee County)
 - Hillsborough Bay Area (Hillsborough County)
 - Homosassa Bay Area (Citrus County)
 - Withlacoochee River (Citrus and Levy Counties)
 - Vero Beach Area (Indian River County)
 - Fort Pierce Area (St. Lucie County)
2. Have the students answer the following questions:
 - What area is closest to Orlando, Florida? *St. John's River/Blue Spring*
 - What area is the farthest from Miami, Florida? *Waccasassa Bay Area*
 - What area is closest to Naples, Florida? *Caloosahatchee River*
 - What two areas are the farthest apart? *Waccasassa Bay and Miami Shores Area*
 - How many counties in Florida border the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico? *36*

DEEPER DEPTHS

West Indian manatees are also found in other areas of the world. Create a worldwide distribution map for this species and do research to determine if any other state or country has established refuges for the manatee.

Revealing Refuges Activity Sheet

1. Using a Florida map, locate the areas listed below. Many of these areas are winter *refuges* for manatees. Label each area next to its location on the map.

- Miami Shores Area
- Indian River
- Waccasassa Bay
- Palm Beaches Area
- St. John's River/Blue Spring
- Caloosahatchee River
- Hillsborough Bay Area
- Homosassa Bay Area
- Withlacoochee River

- Vero Beach Area
- Fort Pierce Area

2. Answer the following questions:

- What area is closest to Orlando, Florida?
- What area is the farthest from Miami, Florida?
- What area is closest to Naples, Florida?
- What two areas are the farthest apart?
- How many counties in Florida border the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico?

