

# Salt Marsh Ecology - Sketch a Model of a Wetland

(SEC1. a.)

## Wrap-Up Activity

Describe the habitat of your wetland model and what you chose to include.

(SEC1. b.)

**Answers will vary.**

Describe an interaction between two of the species you included in your model.

(SEC3. a.)

**Example: Smooth cordgrass provides habitat as well as a food source for periwinkle snails that live on the stalks. Periwinkle snails consume algae as they migrate up and down the stalk as the tide rises and falls.**

What might happen if you remove a keystone species?

(SEC3. b., SEC3. c.; SEC1. c.)

**A keystone species is relied upon by other species and the ecosystem as a whole. If a keystone species is removed, the ecosystem would experience drastic change. The eastern oyster, for example, provides habitat, improves water quality and prevents erosion during storms. Without oysters, these ecosystem services would be lost.**