To get the most out of your walk, take your time and use your senses. **There is more than meets the eye when you make the effort to really experience nature!**

**Indian River Lagoon Loop**
- Length: 1 mile
- Walking Time: 1 hour

**I-SPY Trail**
- Length: 1/3 mile
- Walking Time: 20 minutes out and back
- Trail closes daily at 4 PM (Sundays at 3 PM)

**CAUTION:**
For your safety, the trail will be closed during inclement weather. If you happen to be on the trail during a storm, please find the nearest shelter and remain there until it clears.

**Please Note:**
Summer is high season for mosquitoes along our trail, so insect repellent is highly recommended. (Please do not spray repellent near exhibits).

**Nature Trail Sightings**
- Watch for manatees and dolphins as you pass by the Indian River Lagoon.
- Look along the edge of the mangrove swamps for burrows and the crabs inside.
- Don’t forget to look up to view the many birds utilizing the mangrove swamp habitat for resting and nesting.

**QR Code guided walk**
Scan the QR codes in the designated spots along the trail to learn more about our nature area and the plants/animals living here.

Join Florida Oceanographic and enjoy free admission all year! Today’s admission receipt can be applied to your new Annual Membership; stop by Admissions or call 772-225-0505 x108.

**Please help us keep this natural area natural.**
- Stay on the path.
- No smoking on the nature trail.
- Properly dispose of trash in the available receptacles.
- Leave the trail as you found it.
- Be respectful of local wildlife as you are a visitor in their habitat.

**QR code locations**
- Tropical Hammock
- Mangrove Swamp
- Shelter
- Ais Indian Encampment
- FLOOR Bagging Area
- Observation Deck

**End of Trail Please turn around.**

**Visitors Center & Pavilions**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Outdoor programs and activities may expose visitors to certain risks inherent in natural areas. Florida Oceanographic’s directors, employees and volunteers are not responsible for damages, injuries or loss of property which may occur during normal activities and programs at the Coastal Center.

11/2019
As you explore the nature trails, use the signage along the way to help you discover and identify the unique plants and animals found in the barrier island system.

Here are some common species to look for:

**Species common to the Tropical Hammock**

**Plants**
- Cabbage Palm *Sabal palmetto*—Florida’s state tree
- Live Oak *Quercus virginiana*
- Gumbo Limbo *Bursera simaruba*
- American Beautyberry *Callicarpa americana*

**Eiphytes (Air Plants)**
- Spanish Moss *Tillandsia usneoides*
- Resurrection Fern *Polypodium polyiodioides*
- Butterfly Orchid *Encyclia tampensis*

**Animals**
- Bobcat *Lynx rufus*
- Raccoon *Procyon lotor*
- Marsh Rabbit *Sylvilagus palustris*
- Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus*
- Corn Snake *Elaphe guttata guttata*
- Green Anole *Anolis carolinensis*

**Species common to the Mangrove Swamp**

**Plants**
- Red Mangrove (#2) *Rhizophora mangle*
- Black Mangrove (#2) *Avicennia germinans*
- White Mangrove (#2) *Laguncularia racemosa*
- Buttonwood (#8) *Conocarpus erectus*

**Animals**
- Mangrove Tree Crab (#4) *Aratus pisoni*
- River Otter *Lutra canadensis*
- White Ibis (#3) *Eudocimus albus*
- Great Blue Heron (#3) *Ardea herodias*
- Crablike Spiny Orb Weaver *Gasteracantha cancriformis*

**Species found in the transition areas between Tropical Hammocks and Mangrove Swamps**

**Plants**
- Pond Apple *Annona glabra*
- Giant Leather Fern *Acrostichum danaeifolium*

**Animals**
- Fiddler Crab *Uca sp.*
- Osprey (#3) *Pandion haliaetus*

**Native vs. Exotic-Invasive Species (#10)**

NATIVE species are species naturally found growing and thriving in a certain region. In Florida, we consider native plants and animals those that have been in the State since the Spanish explorers arrived. EXOTIC species are not native to a region. And INVASIVE species grow aggressively in an area, which can stifle the growth of preexisting and native plants.

Exotic-invasive plant species displace native species and can affect community functions of plants and animals. Invasive plant removal is a constant and crucial process to help protect native habitats.

Brazilian Pepper and Australian Pine are two prominent exotic-invasive species found in South Florida.

**Please visit the Gift Shop to find great books and field guides on local species.**

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