

Lesson One:

The Texas Gulf Coast

Instructions:

Your facilitator has initiated this lesson through a discussion topic (post) on the group page. In this lesson you will respond in writing to several prompts (questions.) Write your responses in a Word document and submit this document by attaching it with a reply to the facilitator's post.

INTRODUCTION

- Begin by clicking on [KWL](#). A KWL chart helps the user identify prior knowledge and experience as a bridge to a new concept, lesson, or unit. List what you already know about estuaries, oysters, and tidewaters areas in the K (Knowledge) column. Then list what you would like to learn about estuaries, oysters, and tidewaters areas in the W (Want to know) column.
- You are about to see a video about estuaries, oysters, and tidewaters areas that focuses on the Texas Gulf Coast.
- Click on [The Texas Gulf Coast](#) to start the video.
- When you have seen the video, submit your responses to the prompts below to your facilitator.
 - What are some characteristics of the Texas Gulf Coast?
 - What role do oysters play in the Texas Gulf region?
 - How have human and environmental changes affected the Texas Gulf region?
 - What forces are at work in the loss of Oyster reefs in the Texas Gulf region?
 - What can be done to restore or protect the Texas Gulf region?
- Record what you learned about estuaries, oysters, and tidewater areas from the video in the L (learned) column of the chart.
- Share the information contained in your completed KWL chart with the group by replying to your facilitator about this lesson. Also, provide each group member with some feedback on his or her KWL charts.

TIDEWATERS: PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER

- Click on the [Concept Web](#). You can use the web to summarize what you learned about tidewaters. The word “tidewaters” is written in the center of the web. Think of all the terms and phrases from the KWL activity, the video, and your own experience that can be used to describe tidewaters. Record these words and phrases on the “legs” of the web.
- Share the information contained in your completed concept web with the group. Also, provide each of your group members with some feedback on their concept webs.

Additional Resources on Tidewaters

You can learn more about resources on tidewaters by visiting the project web site at www.geoteach.org. Go through the various links related to the subject of tidewaters that appear on the web site. These links can be found under Teacher Resources, Content Enhancements.