

Creatures of Great Bay

Safe Haven

Imagine yourself as a young sea creature. You might dream of a quiet, safe place where ocean waves and big fish can't reach you. Your safe haven would be a place where there was more food than you could possibly eat. Your day would be a feast from morning till night. If you knew where it was, wouldn't you swim, crawl, or slither to this place?

Dinner Is Served

Luckily for you, the tide has brought you up the Piscataqua River mouth into a secret, hidden bay. It's all you'd hoped for and more. You bask in the warm sunshine and dig in the soft mud. Mealtime is any time you feel like eating delicious crab larvae, decaying

plants and animals, or a slippery worm.

Even here, though, there's no such thing as a free lunch. Your new home has



some drawbacks.

In summer the water can be as salty as the open ocean, and in spring when the snow melts off the land, you feel as if you are swimming in a freshwater river. It can get as hot as the tropics in summer, and it can be frozen solid in winter.



Home for Many

But for adaptable animals like yourself, it's a great place to spend your childhood, to lay your eggs, or to just stop by for a good meal. Your new home has a variety of amazing habitats. This special place really does exist, and it's called Great Bay.



As you explore Great Bay, look for these residents:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoe Crab | <input type="checkbox"/> Osprey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great blue heron | <input type="checkbox"/> Mud snail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ribbed mussel | <input type="checkbox"/> Herring gull |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black duck | <input type="checkbox"/> Bald eagle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oyster | <input type="checkbox"/> Raccoon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green crab | <input type="checkbox"/> White-tailed deer |