Science activate: Peri-what?

WHAT: Periphyton is not an animal nor a plant. It’s a community of organisms, all living together.

HOW: From the first organism that eats periphyton (SNAILS) to the top of the food web (maybe ALLIGATORS and CROCS), periphyton is the laying foundation of the Everglades food web.

DID YOU KNOW?

Photosynthesis allows periphyton to release oxygen and remove acid from Florida’s limestone bedrock, preventing it from dissolving.

Like a sponge, periphyton holds moisture to be used by organisms during dry season; it filters water, and naturally regulates water quality.

To learn more about periphyton visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNMeYGXXpc

CIRCLE the creatures that call periphyton home:

Adult Beetle  Butterfly  Clam or Mussel  Alligator
Water Mite  Gammarus  Snail  Midge Larva

For questions, e-mail: lili@coralgablesmuseum.org