



Seaside News

Food Sources on the Outer Banks

Fishing is a way Outer Banks people get food since the time Native Americans lived there centuries ago. Because the area is surrounded by water – the sound and the sea – it makes sense that people fished there long ago and still do now.

The first people went out in canoes to catch fish. They also used nets called weirs to trap them, then they would spear them. The Native Americans also hunted for meat and grew food.

Outer Banks fisherfolk today go to sea in commercial fishing boats called trawlers and they take visitors out in what are called charter boats. To charter a boat means to pay someone to take you to the fishing grounds.

There are lots of fish to catch inshore and offshore for food and also for sport. Food fish include tuna, flounder, trout, wahoo, mahi-mahi, bluefish and more!

Charter boat captains travel to the Gulf Stream, which is like a warm river of water in the Atlantic Ocean where fish like to swim and find food.

Sport fishing people can catch billfish such as blue marlin, white marlin, and sailfish, but they don't eat this kind of fish. They are called billfish because they have a long, pointy sword sticking out like a beak. Like the Native Americans, early Outer Banks folk also grew gardens. They raised sheep and cattle for meat. This kind of life was called living off the land and sea.

1. What did the Native Americans call their fishing nets?
2. Name a commercial fishing boat.
3. What kind of fish is a blue marlin?
4. Who were the first people to live on the Outer Banks?
5. Name fish people caught to eat.

1. Weirs
2. Trawler
3. Billfish
4. Native Americans
5. Tuna, flounder, trout, wahoo, mahi-mahi, and bluefish.

Connect the Words

Fishing	Nets
Ship	Ocean
Blue Marlin	Commercial fishing boat
Sea	Angling
Weirs	Billfish
Trawler	Boat
Charter a boat	Stream of warm water
Gulf Stream	Book a boat

Joke of the Month

What fish is the most famous at the beach?

A Sea Star!