



**10 CRAZY
OCEAN
facts!**
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RISING TIDE

THE MAGAZINE for YOUNG ANGLERS
and CONSERVATIONISTS

Page 8
**RELEASE THEM
FOR TOMORROW!**



Meet the **Greater
AMBERJACK**
Page 4

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RISE **TIDE**

Rising Tide is Coastal Conservation Association's youth outreach and education program, which promotes conservation ethics and education among young anglers. The program endeavors to capture the enthusiasm of young anglers and provide opportunities for them to understand and appreciate the coastal environment. CCA encourages young anglers to get involved with community habitat projects, participate in local and statewide tournaments, and promote marine science and conservation at their school. The Rising Tide program is committed to engaging the imaginations of young people and inspiring them to become the conservation leaders of tomorrow.

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10 10 Crazy Ocean Facts
From shark teeth to parrotfish poop, read all ten silly and fun facts for ocean lovers.

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Kids share their best catches. Can you guess all the species?

<< ON THE COVER

Finn Aukeman (6) was offshore fishing with his older brother Cade off Alligator Point in Florida when he was the first one to notice a large group of greater amberjack swimming under the boat. In true brotherly fashion, there was a quick dash to grab the rod to see who could catch the first fish, and Finn was fastest. He was using live bait and artificial lures throughout the day. Check out his brother Cade's amberjack and learn all about this fun-to-catch species on page 4! The Aukeman brothers are definitely hooked on fishing!



Answers from page 11

1. speckled trout | 2. redfish or red drum (this size is considered a "bull" redfish) | 3. red snapper
4. speckled trout | 5. southern flounder | 6. redfish or red drum | 7. speckled trout | 8. redfish or red drum



Habitat in Action! **KIDS** **Making a Difference**

Funding for the Lake Charles project was provided by Phillips 66, CCA's Building Conservation Trust and Martin Ecosystems along with donations by individual CCA members. Program support for CCA's Floating Islands initiative across Louisiana was provided by Entergy. In-kind services for the project provided by Mike Hooks LLC and Stream Wetland Services. Youth volunteers were coordinated by the CCA Louisiana Youth Outreach program in partnership with the Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation and the Magistro Family Foundation.

CCA LOUISIANA, PHILLIPS 66, CONSERVATION PARTNERS AND LOCAL STUDENTS COMPLETE PHASE II OF PRIEN LAKE FLOATING ISLANDS IN LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

Recently the CCA Louisiana Lake Charles Chapter, Phillips 66, Martin Ecosystems and local students from Pearl Watson Elementary and Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School teamed up to help rebuild the coastline near Prien Lake with a Floating Islands installation.

Volunteers from Phillips 66, local CCA chapter volunteers and about 100 students braved the chilly weather at the public boat launch next to the I-210 bridge to build approximately 2,000 square feet of new wetland island habitat. Each 8 x 15 foot "island" held 300 plants, and were loaded onto a large barge for transport to the marsh site. Once in the marsh, they were placed end-to-end and anchored to the water bottom. Roughly 4,000 native plants, including mangrove, seashore paspalum and smooth cord grass, were installed. The "floating islands" technology allows these plants to take root in the water bottom while providing protection to the existing shoreline from the natural elements.

This is the second large-scale habitat partnership between Phillips 66 and CCA in recent years. In 2018, the two groups worked together to expand the Brad Vincent Artificial Reef in Calcasieu Lake.

Lake Charles Mayor Nic Hunter was on hand for the project and spoke to the crowd about the importance of projects like this one, and how young people are a critical factor in addressing Louisiana's coastal land loss issue.

"It is so impressive that students like you are here making a difference in our community and on our coast. You should all be very proud," said Hunter. "Through this great project, we are working with our future generation today, to preserve our environment for tomorrow."

Reverend Francis "Boo" Kay, Head of Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School, watched as the students from both schools worked together to get the difficult work done.

"What we have out here today are special kids who care deeply about the environment and our community," said Kay. "They are leading by example, making a difference for our coastal wetlands, and creating a better world for future generations. It's inspiring!"

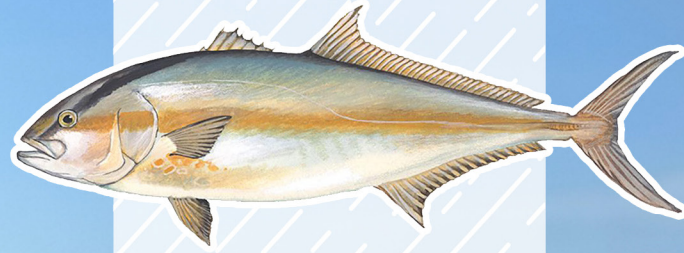
This was the sixth floating islands project spearheaded by CCA Louisiana in recent years. In all, nearly 25,000 square feet of new marsh has been built by CCA to create habitat and fortify marshland that had been devastated by years of erosion and storms. These projects are the first to use this technology and in some cases, the "floating island marsh" has even outperformed the surrounding natural marsh.

This build marks the 32nd habitat project completed in recent years by CCA Louisiana and their partners, including 26 artificial reef projects and 6 marsh planting projects, representing a total habitat investment of nearly \$12 million.

For more information about this project or about CCA Louisiana, please visit ccalouisiana.com



CCA Member Cade Aukeman, 13, enjoyed a great day offshore fishing when a number of greater amberjack appeared under the boat ready to eat anything he put in the water. He was throwing a small inshore jig and would hang on for a great fight. That day he hooked, caught, and released 10 fish back to the bottom to swim another day.



**GREATER AMBERJACK
(SERIOLA DUMERILI) ARE
THE LARGEST AND MOST
COMMON AMBERJACK
AND AN IMPORTANT
RECREATIONAL SPECIES
FOUND IN THE GULF OF
MEXICO AND SOUTH
ATLANTIC REGIONS.**

Meet the Greater AMBERJACK

Greater amberjack are often called "reef donkeys" by fishermen because they live on reefs and are strong and stubborn! These powerful fighters can test any anglers' tackle and ability to land them.



All About AJs

WHERE: Greater amberjack (*Seriola dumerili*) are the largest and most common amberjack in the United States found from Virginia to Texas, including the U.S. Caribbean.

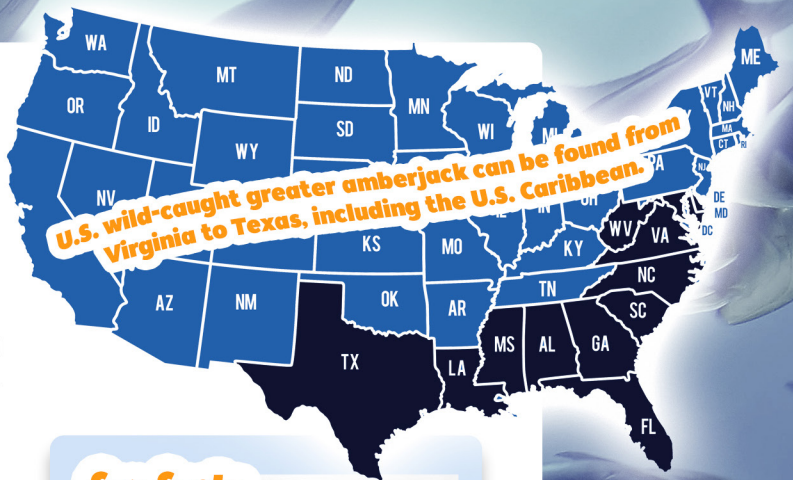
SIZE: Although greater amberjack average about 20 pounds, they can weigh up to 200 pounds. The Texas state record is 133 pounds caught in 2019, the Florida state record is 142 pounds caught in 1979 and the North Carolina state record is 126 pounds caught in 2008. The larger amberjack are usually females because they tend to live much longer than males (up to 15 years).

LOOKS: Greater amberjack have a dark stripe on their head, extending from their nose to their first dorsal (back) fin that "lights up" when it's in feeding mode. They have an amber horizontal stripe along the middle of their body and their tail fin is lunate or moon-shaped. Juveniles have a yellow color and five or six dark vertical bars along the sides.

DIET: Greater amberjack are eager and greedy predators, eating mostly crab, squid and other fishes found on reefs.

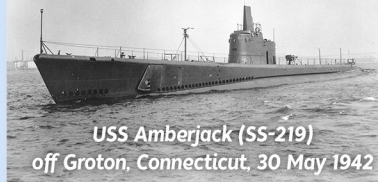
HABITAT: Greater amberjacks are structure-oriented, which means they can usually be found around natural reefs or artificial reefs such as shipwrecks and oil rigs, between 60 and 240 feet of water.

FISHING: The best technique for catching an amberjack is to drift fish over these structures they swim around. Other effective methods include surface trolling and casting. Anglers will sometimes accidentally catch greater amberjacks while fishing for groupers and snappers. You better be ready to fight if you hook one, amberjack are known for their powerful pull and will test your equipment and skills!



fun facts

TWO UNITED STATES NAVY SUBMARINES HAVE BEEN NAMED **USS AMBERJACK**.



MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA, IS HOME TO A MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM CALLED THE AMBERJACKS.



There is also a **lesser amberjack (*Seriola fasciata*)** species - they don't get nearly as big as greater amberjack, maxing out at about 10 pounds.

Full Body	First Dorsal Fin Spine #	Maxilla-Eye Alignment	Key Characteristics
<p>Greater Amberjack</p>	<p>7</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slender body - Stripe to first dorsal fin - corner of mouth upturned
<p>Lesser Amberjack</p>	<p>8</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blunt mouth - Stripe not to first dorsal fin - Proportionally larger eye

Dashed lines in the first column show position of an anal fin relative to second dorsal fin.

HEY GROWN-UPS!
You can find all these
items on Amazon.com!

salinity now

WHAT'S GOT CCA KIDS FEELIN' SALTY?



Make your
favorite pair
of clogs or slides
even better! This

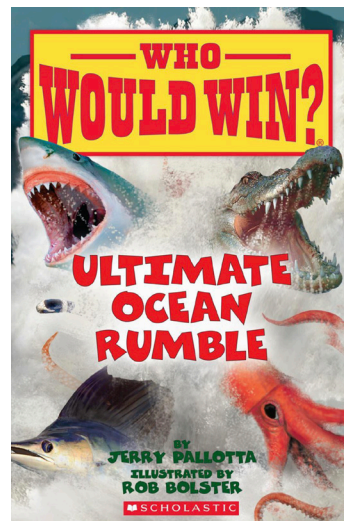
FISHING-THEMED SHOE

CHARM PACK from Amazon comes
with 30 different with fun and color-
ful charms designed for kids who love
catching fish!

It can be a challenge to find a quality rod and
reel in a smaller size that is strong enough to
keep up on a serious fishing trip. The **QUALITY
KIDS UGLY STIK ROD AND SHIMANO SIENNA
2500 REEL COMBO** does the trick! The rod is
almost unbreakable and the reel is reliable and
easy to cast. Plus it comes spooled with qual-
ity Platypus 10lb mono line that will not tangle,
making life easier and the fishing trip more
enjoyable. Fish on!



In the book **ULTIMATE OCEAN
RUMBLE (WHO WOULD WIN?)**,
sixteen different ocean animals
battle it out in a huge under-
water fight! Who will be the cham-
pion? Readers also learn about
each animal's anatomy, behavior,
and more. Then compare and con-
trast the battling animals before
finally discovering the winner!



Hydration on-the-go
is key for your next
fishing trip, school
or sports! These
marine-life theme

ZAK DESIGNS WATER

BOTTLES are
leak-proof and
easy to open
with the
push of a
button. The
handle built
into the lid
folds in and
out for easy
carrying.



Enjoy the delicious, chewy
candy you love - without all
the sugar parents don't like you
filling up on. **SMARTSWEETS
SWEET FISH** are plant-based
sweets that use natural sweet-
eners
and are
free from
artificial
colors and
flavors.
It's candy,
but bet-
ter!



Dive into
drenching fun with
this **NERF SUPER SOAKER ROBLOX
SHARKBITE WATER BLASTER** in fun outdoor water bat-
tles. Show off your shark-iest skills as you soak opponents with streams
of water. Open the cap, fill the tank, close the cap, then pump the handle
backward and forward to swamp the competition!

Try This!

OCEAN Dipped Pretzels

These fishing-themed pretzels are a great idea for parties, gifts or just snacking! Follow the easy step-by-step directions to make these treats at home with your family and friends. They are so fun to make and even more fun to eat!

What You'll Need:



1 Bag Blue Melting Chocolate



1 Bag Pretzel Rods



Ocean-themed sprinkles



1
Melt your chocolate as directed on the package and pour it into a tall glass. Then, dip your pretzel into the chocolate leaving the end with no chocolate. Tap and twist off any excess chocolate so it's not overly coated.



2
Place dipped pretzel gently down on parchment or wax paper.



3
Immediately top with sprinkles while the chocolate is still wet. Sprinkles will not stick if chocolate has started hardening.



DONE!
That was easy!

Release THEM

822,000,000

Redfish Released

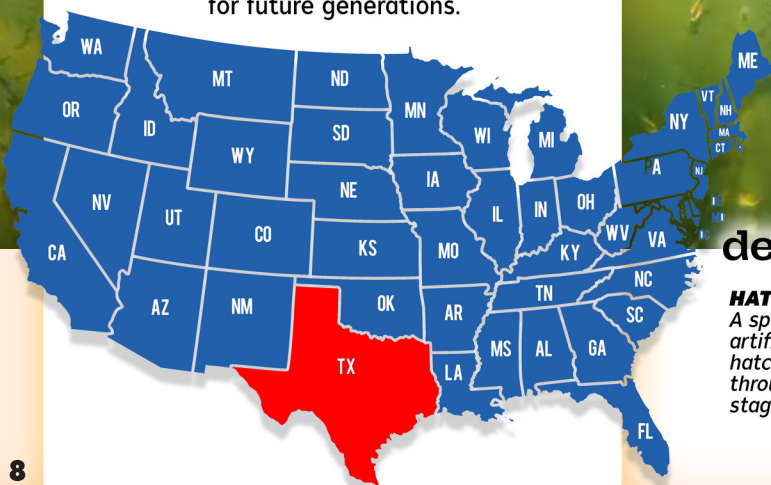


Texas hatcheries release millions of fingerlings into every Texas bay system, averaging 25 million per year. After 3 days in the hatchery, the larvae are transported to ponds where they will remain for approximately 30 days before they are harvested. The number each bay receives varies annually, dependent upon recommendations of fishery biologists.

CCA TEXAS HAS BUILT LARGEST HATCHERY IN THE WORLD AND RELEASED 1 BILLION FINGERLINGS!

CCA Texas, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and industry leaders have built the largest saltwater redfish, spotted seatrout, and southern flounder hatchery system in the world!

Releasing nearly **1 BILLION FINGERLINGS** into Texas bays. Adult broodstock are spawned in tanks, hundreds of thousands of fingerlings are raised in grow out ponds and released into bays to ensure we have healthy populations for future generations.



Unlike red drum and spotted sea trout, flounder larvae and fingerling culture require a great deal of intensive care in indoor tanks. It can take flounder 45-60 days before they undergo metamorphosis, after which they can be grown out either indoors or in large ponds.



820,000

Southern Flounder Released

Speckled trout have an extremely fast growth rate and are the fastest growing of all three species. Occasionally, trout will reach 2 inches in length in just 3 weeks! Because of this rapid growth rate and the aggressive feeding behavior of trout, hatchery staff have to carefully manage and plan the grow out process.

148,000,000

Speckled Trout Released

definitions>>

HATCHERY:

A special facility for artificial breeding, hatching, and raising through the early life stages of fish.

FINGERLING:

The development stage of young fish at which the fins can be extended and scales start developing. They are never larger than a small human finger, which is where the name originates.

FOR Tomorrow!

Cain, 12, holds a small transport tube full of juvenile redfish before their release in the waters of Fort Pierce, on north Hutchinson Island, Florida.



5,000,000

Redfish and spotted seatrout released throughout Florida since 1991

RELEASE THEM FOR TOMORROW
#CCAFLORIDA | #DUKEENERGY

CCA FLORIDA HAS RAISED AND RELEASED THE LARGEST NUMBER OF JUVENILE REDFISH AND SEATROUT EVER IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA!

Since 1991 the Duke Energy Mariculture Center and CCA Florida have released more than **5 MILLION REDFISH AND SPOTTED SEATROUT** ranging from 4 to 30 inches throughout the state of Florida. CCA Florida's restocking program in partnership with the Duke Energy Mariculture Center is the only active redfish and spotted seatrout restocking program in the state. Their philosophy of releasing larger fish, although significantly more costly, increases the chance of the fish finding food and habitat which equates to a significant increase in the survival rate. This is all thanks to the Duke Energy Mariculture Center, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, volunteers, guides and young anglers who helped release the fish in prime locations throughout the state.

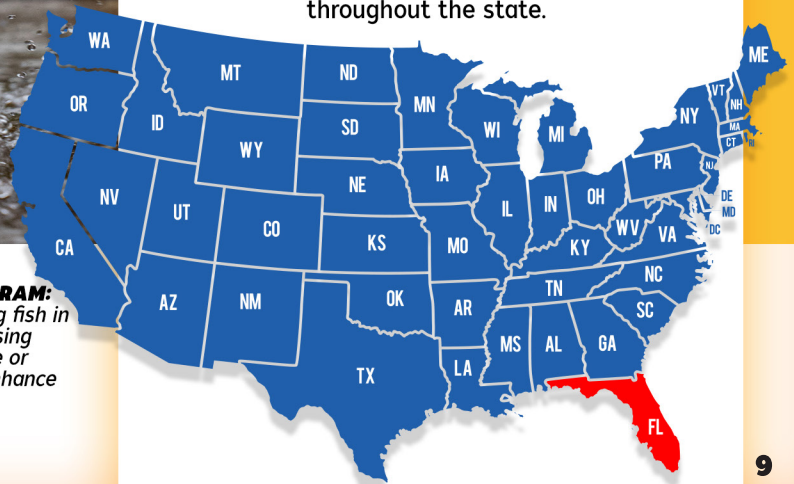
Juvenile fish are scooped into special bags and transported from the Mariculture Center to the open waters they will be released into. Finn, 6, grips a heavy bag of juvenile redfish about to meet their new home in the waters of Apalachicola, Florida.



BROODSTOCK:
The parent fish from which fingerlings are produced.

JUVENILE FISH:
A young fish between a toddler and middle-school aged.

RESTOCKING PROGRAM:
The practice of raising fish in a hatchery and releasing them into a river, lake or ocean to grow and enhance existing populations.



10 CRAZY OCEAN facts!



JELLYFISH don't have bones, brains, or hearts.



Octopuses have a **doughnut-shaped** brain.



The oldest koi fish lived to be **226 YEARS OLD.**



Hawaii's **WHITE-SAND** beaches are largely made from **parrotfish poop.**

A **SAILFISH** can leap through the air at **68 MILES PER HOUR**, about the speed of a car on the highway.



A shark can grow and lose up to **30,000 TEETH** in its lifetime.



Despite the nickname "sea cow," **MANATEES** are closely related to **ELEPHANTS.**

Herring communicate by **passing gas.**

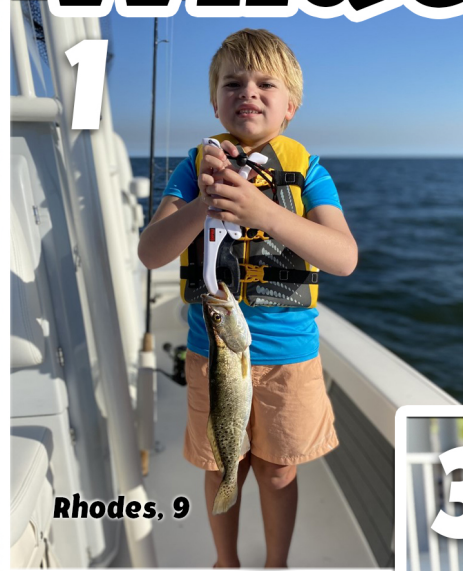
A **salmon's** sense of smell is **THOUSANDS** times better than a **dog's.**



A bottlenose **dolphin** has a **bigger brain** than a human.



Whatcha Catchin'?



Rhodes, 9

**CCA MEMBERS LOVE
TO SHARE THEIR
BEST CATCHES!**

Do you see a species
below that you've
caught before?
See if you can name
them all!

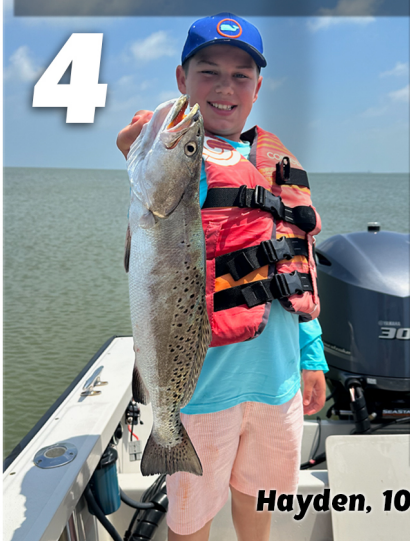
>> Answers on page 2.



Townes, 11



Cade, 13



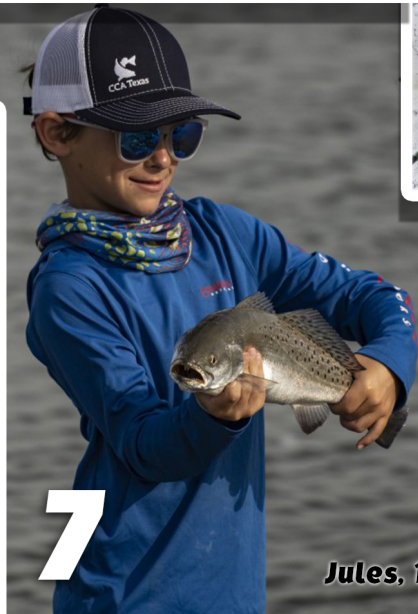
Hayden, 10



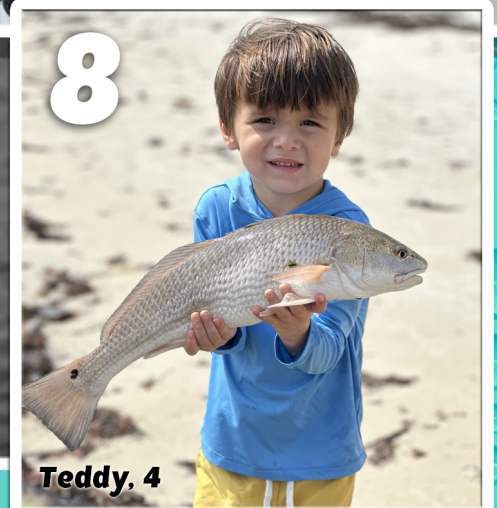
Zane, 9
Kade, 6



Kane, 10



Jules, 10



Teddy, 4



Thank you Phillips 66!

Because of the generous support of Phillips 66 the
Rising Tide Youth Program will continue to thrive!



CONSERVATION & PROTECTION OF MARINE LIFE

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YOU are an important part of a conservation organization of more than 100,000 people who love and care about fishing and the health of marine life and habitat. That makes **YOU**...a pretty cool kid.



PROVIDING ENERGY.
IMPROVING LIVES.

Thank You
Phillips 66
For Your
Support
of This
Program!