Scavenger Hunt!

At the National Aquarium
“One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Jew Fish”

1. Our first stop is a very cool creature.
   Look for his dorsal fin and teeth as a main feature.
   He has fins but no scales, so we aren’t an eater.
   But in this tank, he is a food eating leader.
   Find me I am a ________________

2. Looking in the sand for this fish is key.
   He lays on one side, as you can see.
   Right handed or left, I think you will agree
   Fins and scales means he can be eaten by you and by me.
   Find me I am a ________________

3. Look for something big lurking in this ship
   Whose hull, unfortunately, has a huge rip.
   The telltale signs are its size and lips,
   Although, to be kosher, its fins and scales are the tip!
   Find me I am a ________________

4. Some things in here do not live in the sea,
   But take a dip, like you and me.
   They can also fly, which makes them free
   Swimming also in water, making use of all three.
   Find me I am a ________________

*Bonus Clues On Back!
Clue 1 leads us to the Black Tip Reef Shark!

Information: This fish was made on the fifth day of creation. Sharks have fins but NOT scales, which means that sharks are not kosher- Kosher animals have both. Instead of scales, sharks have dental dermicles, which are made out of the same material as your teeth. They are curved to fit together and make sharks aerodynamic. Because of the dental dermicles, if you pet one from his head to his tail it will feel smooth, but the other way is very rough. Also, most sharks sense prey by bumping them and sensing their caloric intake. These sharks don’t have to because we feed them, but they do eat differently than all the other creatures in this tank. They are trained to come to a target to get their meals, the same way you know you can eat when you go to a table.

Clue 2 leads us to the Flounder!

Information: The flounder was created on the fifth day of creation. He has fins and scales, which means he is a kosher fish to eat. Why do you think it might help him to be camouflaged? Also, the flounder can teach us a lot about perspective. The flounder is either right or left handed, depending on which side he always lays on; plus his “down-side eye” can move to the top side of his head. How do you view things in the world? What are things you see or observe that you like in the world? Before moving on, please feel free to touch the whale bone next to the escalator. If you look up you will see a whale skeleton. Do you think you could fit inside a whale’s belly?

Clue 3 leads us to the Grouper!

Information: The grouper is a kosher fish, having fins and scales and was also created on the fifth day of creation. The grouper teaches us a very valuable lesson. Observe its living situation. What do you see? He is bigger than the rest of the creatures with whom he lives. How does the grouper coexist? How do you coexist with people and community who might be different from you?

Clue 4 leads us to the Puffin!

Information: Birds were created on the fifth day of creation. They were created to spread their wings and fly, but the puffin is unique because it spends its time in all THREE places where water exists; land, ocean and sky. Jews, like the puffins, exist in many environments and, even if they don’t always look alike or speak the same language, we are all “in the water together.” How do you feel as a Jewish person? Do you feel connected to the Jewish community?

Clue 5 leads us to the Terrapin Turtle!

Information: The University of Maryland’s mascot! Have you ever been to a “Terp” game? Turtles, unlike humans, can hide in their shelters and avoid things around them. This Terrapin sometimes even puts himself in time out?! Unfortunately, when he hides in his shell, he can only protect himself and not the rest of the creatures with whom he lives. Have you ever been in a situation where you have not taken care of something? Or someone in your household?

Clue 6 leads us to the scavengers!

Information: These scavengers do not have fins or scales so they are not kosher. However, they do serve an important purpose. The Jewish concept, “Ba’al Tashchit” means not to waste. Marine scavengers are natural recyclers. They hang out at the bottom of the ocean and eat a lot the things that would otherwise cause a huge landfill on the ocean floor. Instead they turn it into something useful. How are these animals practicing the Ba’al Tashchit principle? Can you think of some ways that you can? Maybe things you can “scavenge” from the garbage and recycle? What types of other things can get used for another purpose instead of being thrown out?