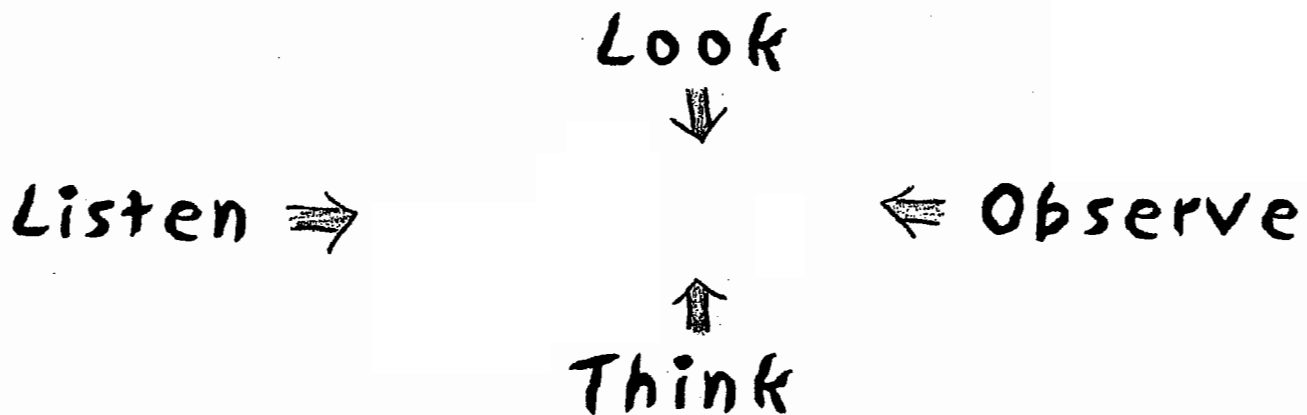


Part 7

Student Field Guide



Field Observations

What is the date today? _____

What is the air temperature today? _____

What is the water temperature? _____

What type of clouds do you see? _____

How much of the sky is covered with clouds? _____%

Sketch four plants that you observe.

Try to identify them using the cards in your packet:

What insects do you observe?

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Observe birds near the lagoon.

Sketch and try to identify two that you see:

--	--

What are the birds doing?

Are they resting, swimming, walking, flying, diving, eating, probing sand?

Find two signs of animal life:

tracks, scat, shells, nests, feathers, holes, bones.

Sketch and label your observations:

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Have your group stay completely silent for five minutes.

What natural sounds do you hear?

Find evidence of human influence: structures, roads, trash.
Sketch and label your observations:

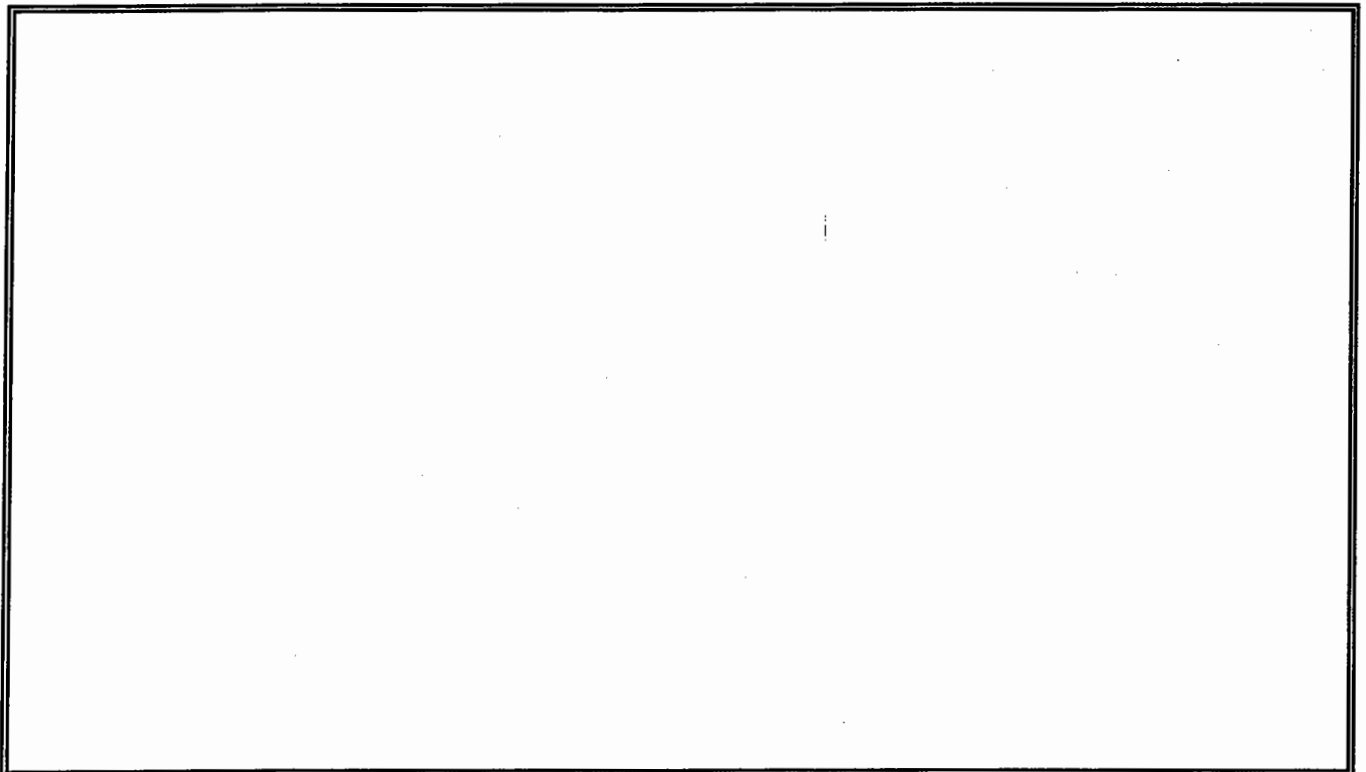
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Look around you. Try to imagine how the lagoon looked back in the time of the Kumeyaay.

What resources would they have used in their daily life?

Sit and sketch your view of the lagoon.

Include water, land, reeds, trees, birds.



Lagoon Scavenger Hunt

Place a checkmark on each box as you observe. Please don't take samples.

Cattails



This plant can grow 9 feet tall, with its roots under water.

Great Egret



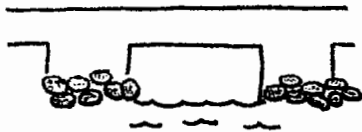
This large white bird wades in shallow water looking for fish.

Pickleweed



Growing near water, this plant looks like a string of tiny pickles.

Bridges crossing the Lagoon



The freeway, railroad and Highway 101 cross the lagoon.

Animal Tracks



Look for signs of animal life: footprints left in mud.

Insect



You may spot dragonflies, butterflies, bees, ants or beetles.

Prickly Pear Cactus



Native Americans ate the pads and fruit of this cactus.

Waterfowl



Swimming in the lagoon are mallards, pintails and coots.

Eucalyptus Tree



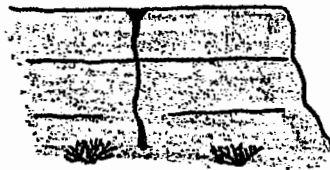
These trees were brought from Australia.

Lizard



You may spot a Sagebrush Lizard or a Side-blotched Lizard.

Sandstone Rocks



These pale tan rocks formed underwater 45 million years ago.

Midden



Native Americans collected shellfish, leaving shells behind.

Scavenger Hunt

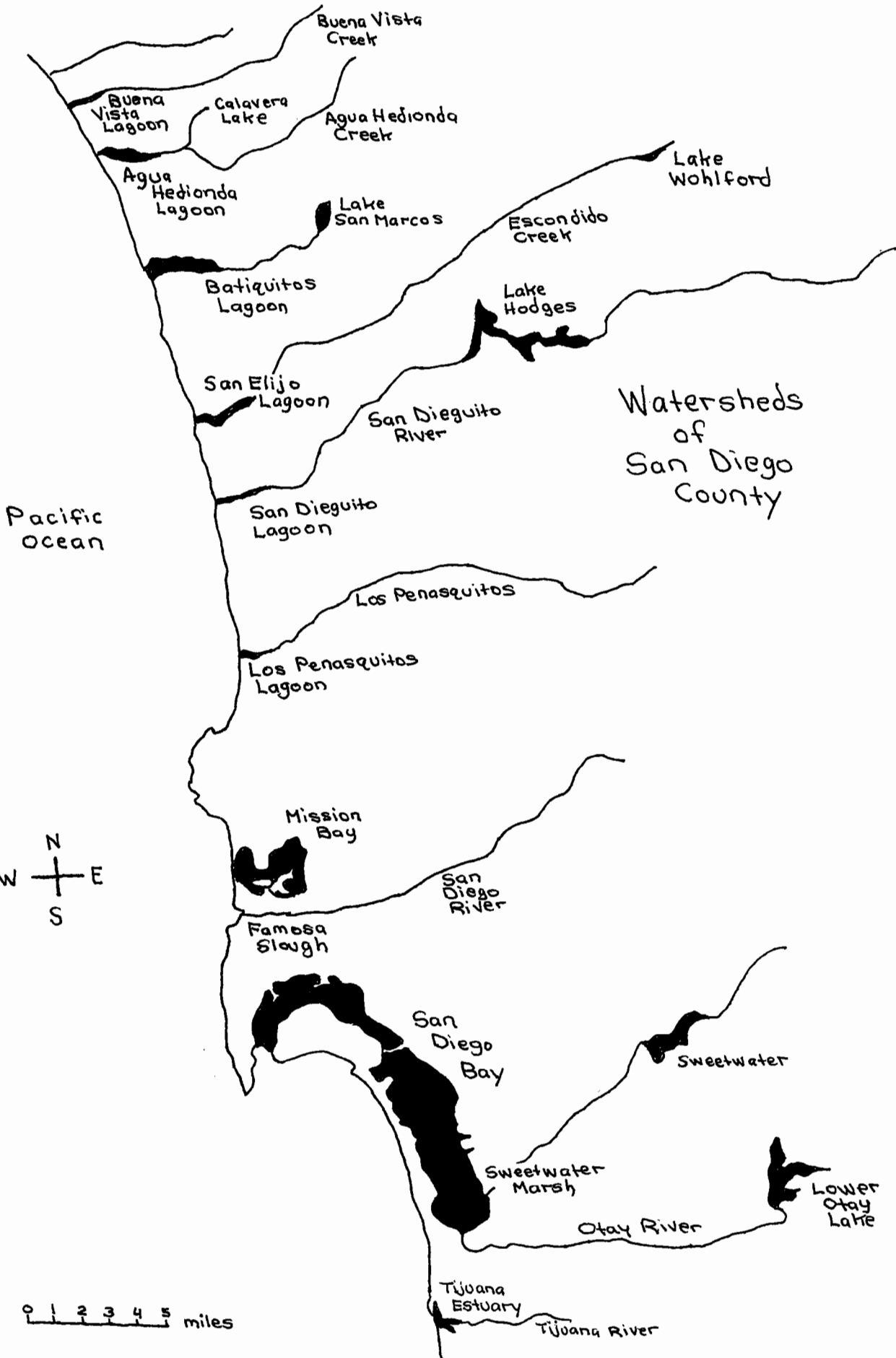
Write or sketch each item as you find it:

Things to find:	Describe or sketch:
a plant that may have been used by the Kumeyaay	
an animal or bird track	
a flowering plant	
a piece of bark	
a rotting leaf	
an insect	
something floating on water	
a shell	
something built by humans	
a plant rooted in the water	
a piece of trash: bring it out!	

San Diego Lagoons: What makes each special?

Lagoon	Location	Description
Santa Margarita Estuary	near Camp Pendleton	This free-flowing river is surrounded by riparian habitat, with a wide diversity of native plants and animals.
San Luis Rey River Estuary	Oceanside	The lower river is confined to a channel. The estuary has been affected by agriculture and mining.
Buena Vista Lagoon	Oceanside-Carlsbad	The Audobon Society operates a Nature Center. This is currently a freshwater lagoon, but may be restored to a saltwater lagoon.
Agua Hedionda Lagoon	Carlsbad	Currently a freshwater lagoon, this is the only lagoon that allows watersports. A YMCA camp and fish research stations are found here. A Nature Center is planned.
Batiquitos Lagoon	Carlsbad	A walking trail and Nature Center are located along the northern shore. Sheltered islands for least tern nesting are present.
San Elijo Lagoon	Encinitas-Solana Beach	Extensive nature trails along the north and south cross several diverse habitats. A Nature Center on the north side tracks migratory bird patterns.

Lagoon	Location	Description
San Dieguito Lagoon	In Del Mar, near the Fairgrounds	This lagoon is part of the 55-mile long greenbelt of the San Dieguito River Park, extending from the mountains of Julian to the ocean.
Los Penasquitos Lagoon	near Torrey Pines State Beach	Near sandy beaches and the bluffs of Torrey Pines, the shallow lagoon and salt flats can be accessed from a trail along the south side.
Famosa Slough	Mission Bay	In the middle of an urban area, the slough is a popular site for birders, offering extensive nesting and feeding sites for migrating birds.
Sweetwater Marsh	In Chula Vista, on San Diego Bay	Site of a former kelp processing factory, now the Chula Vista Nature Center offers educational displays and bird aviaries. A National Wildlife Refuge.
Tijuana Estuary	In Imperial Beach, on South San Diego Bay	The largest of the lagoons, with the largest watershed. The only lagoon not crossed by man-made roads or trails. There is a Visitor Center and miles of hiking trails. A National Wildlife Refuge.



Why do we have Rules at the Lagoon?

Rule	Reason
No dogs off-leash	Dogs tend to wander off trails, disturbing birds and nests. If the female bird is scared from her nest, babies are vulnerable to attack from predators.
Place dog feces in a bag and remove them	Rainfall washes feces down to the lagoon. Bacteria in the feces is toxic to fish and animals in the lagoon.
Don't take any plants or animals	Many of these species are endangered elsewhere. Lagoons are nature preserves, dedicated to helping plants and animals flourish.
No bicycles.	Bikes erode the trails, and disturb walkers who are travelling more slowly.
No off-road vehicles.	Vehicles cause erosion, and trample sensitive nesting sites.
Only hike on marked trails.	Surrounding hillsides and salt marsh are being restored to their native condition.
No boating	Boats disturb marine animals, and discharge fumes and oil.
Don't litter	Trash can be washed out to the lagoon, polluting animal's habitats.