Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Lesson 2: How Does the Season Affect the Number of Manatee Strikes?**

Most manatees live in tropical climates. However, even tropical regions have seasonal changes. Does the season affect the likelihood that a boat will strike a manatee?

**Doing the Science**

1. Start the Manatee Strike Zone Simulation by clicking on the “Sim” tab.

2. Click the mouse in a location in Zone 1 and drag the mouse to Zone 2 before it’s released. Note a red path and boat appears.

3. Click the mouse in a location in Zone 2 and drag the mouse to Zone 3 before it’s released. Note another red path and boat appears.

4. Note and record in Table 1 the number of manatees on the screen (it should be 5).

5. Note and record in Table 1 the “Season” displayed in the lower left-hand corner of the screen.

6. Click the “Run” button. Let the time run for 1:00 minute.

7. At the 1:00 minute mark, click the “Pause” button.

8. Note and record in Table 1 the number of manatee strikes shown in the display in the upper right-hand corner of the screen.

9. Click on the “Restart” button.

10. Click on the “Fall/Winter” radio button to select a new season. Record this in Table 1.

11. Click the “Run” button. Let the time run for 1:00 minute.

12. At the 1:00 minute mark, click the “Pause” button.

13. Note and record in Table 1 the number of manatee strikes shown in the display in the upper right-hand corner of the screen.

**Table 1.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Season** | Number of Manatees | Number of Strikes (in one minute) |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**Do You Understand?**

1. How did the season affect the likelihood that a manatee strike would occur?

1. What suggestions regarding manatees would you make to the Fish and Wildlife officials based on your results from this experiment?