GSL Scavenger Hunt

This activity will help you prepare for our field trip to the lake. Read the questions, find and record the answers. The internet is a great resource for information about Great Salt Lake.

1. Where does the water come from that flows into Great Salt Lake?

Precipitation directly into the lake contributes some water. Most water flows into the lake from rivers in the area. The Bear River, the Weber River, and the Jordan River contribute the vast majority of inflow. These rivers are fed by mountain precipitation.

2. Draw a map of Great Salt Lake and the three major rivers that flow into it. Be sure to label the map.

3. Does water leave Great Salt Lake? If so, where does it go?

There are no rivers or streams that flow out of Great Salt Lake. Water only leaves through evaporation

4. What is saltier, the Great Salt Lake or the Ocean? (Circle One)

5. What animals live in the water of Great Salt Lake?

Brine Shrimp and Brine Fly larvae. No fish live in the saltiest parts of Great Salt Lake, but some fish and other freshwater critters live in the freshwater wetlands connected to the lake.

6. Draw a picture of one of the animals you listed for question number 5.

7. What animals live near Great Salt Lake? (Hint: your answer should definitely include some birds!)

Many different kinds of birds that depend on the lake for food and habitat. (American White Pelican, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, American Coot, Eared Grebe, Willet, California Gull, and others.)

Source: http://upr.org/post/great-salt-lake-better-without-us
8. Draw a picture of at least two of the animals you listed for question number 7.

9. What do humans get from the Great Salt Lake?

*Answers might reference the salt industry, the brine shrimp industry, recreation, and perhaps even ecosystem services like dust abatement.*

10. Find two fun facts about the Great Salt Lake and write them down below.