
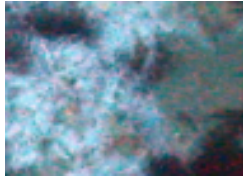
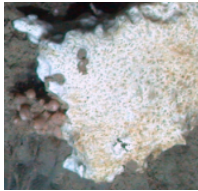

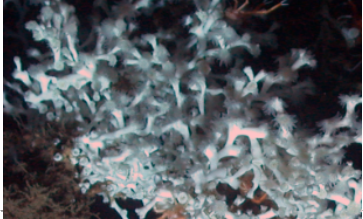
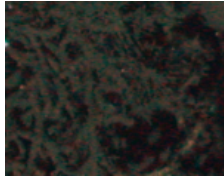






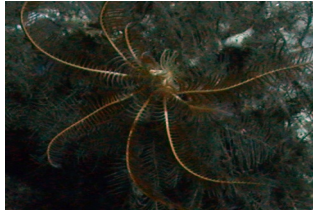


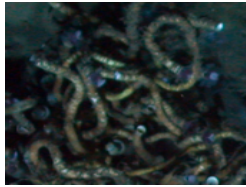

Deep Gulf of Mexico Organisms Dichotomous Key

1A. Vertebrate	Fish (species unknown; seen with <i>Lophelia</i> coral)	
1B. Invertebrate	Go To 2	
2A. Individual organism (one or few) clearly visible	Go To 3	
2B. Clustered or colonial organisms (many similar-looking individuals clumped together), or mat	Go To 4	
3A. Head, body, legs present and clearly defined	Go To 9	
3B. Head, body, legs not present/defined	Go To 10	
4A. Homogenous, mat-like appearance in picture	Go To 5	
4B. Appears as many-similar looking individuals clumped or attached together	Go To 6	
5A. Edges of colony of individuals indistinct or blurry	Bacteria forming mat-like colony	
5B. Edges of colony of organisms distinct, various coloration, including white, blue and orange	Sponge	
6A. Visible branching or tube-like features	Go to 7	
6B. No rigid tube-like or branching structure	Colonial Sea Anemones	

Deep Gulf of Mexico Organisms Dichotomous Key

7A. Skeleton branches, individual organisms may be visible	Go to 8	
7B. Tube-like structures visible; not branching	Go to 13	
8A. Angular, thick, calcareous exoskeleton, white when living	<i>Lophelia pertusa</i> coral (living)	
	<i>Lophelia pertusa</i> skeleton (dead)	
8B. Flexible, feather-like branching with endoskeleton, various colors, often with associated brittle star	<i>Gorgonian</i> coral (living)	
8C. Flexible, feather-like branching, usually brown, rarely colorful, individuals tiny	Hydroids	
9A. Crab with elongated, white-tipped front legs	<i>Eumunida</i> crab	
9B. Crab, smaller, no white tips on legs	<i>Munidopsis</i> crab	

Deep Gulf of Mexico Organisms Dichotomous Key

10A. Clearly defined, arm-like appendages	Go To 11	
10B. No clearly defined arm-like appendages; numerous projections may be present	Go To 14	
11A. 5 arm-like appendages radiating from central disc	Go To 12	
11B. More than 5 arm-like appendages often extending into water column	Crinoids	
12A. Arms straight and tapered	Sea Star	
12B. Arms curled or wound around coral	<i>Ophiuroid</i> Brittle Star (attached to <i>Gorgonian</i> coral)	
13A. Tubes curly or bent	<i>Lamellibrachia</i> <i>tubeworms</i>	
13B. Tubes mostly straight, smaller in diameter	<i>Sabellid</i> worms	

Deep Gulf of Mexico Organisms Dichotomous Key

14A. Soft body, tentacles around oral cavity	Venus Fly Trap Sea Anemone	
14B. Hard, 2-part shell	<i>Acesta</i> clam	
14C. Hard spines radiating from round body	Sea Urchin	