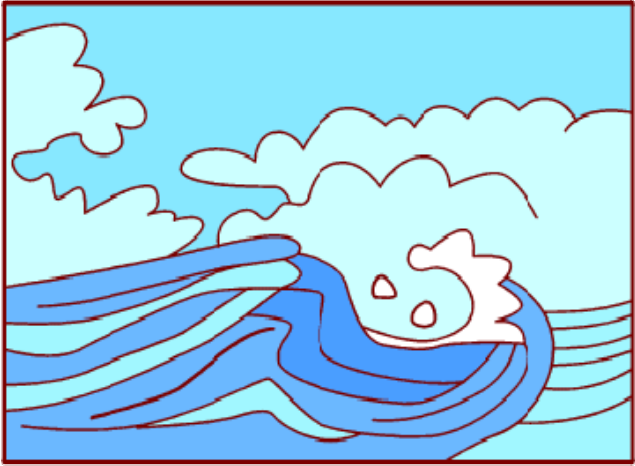


## A Day at Ocracoke



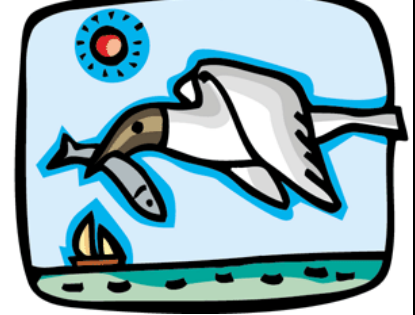
Jocelyn and her father go to Ocracoke every year. To get there they have to drive down the Outer Banks of the North Carolina coast, crossing from island to island until they reach the island of Ocracoke. There, they find a sandy access road through the dunes so they can drive their 4x4 right onto the deserted beach. Jocelyn's father parks with the back of the vehicle facing the ocean. Jocelyn gets out and stands, gazing across the Atlantic Ocean towards the horizon. She watches birds dive down into the water for fish. There is a steady, crashing roar as waves run up the beach again and again, a little farther up the pristine white sand each time. Her father opens the hatchback and pulls out their beach chairs, umbrella and cooler. Then, while Jocelyn is walking up the beach, he gets out their fishing poles. When Jocelyn returns, he has the hooks baited, and together they sink the handles of the fishing poles into the sand and sit down on the dry, hot sand about twenty feet behind them. If Jocelyn squints, she can just make out the nearly invisible fishing line disappearing into the frothy ocean.

## A Day at North Beach



Cynthia and her mother go to North Beach for the day. They drive for about an hour down windy, rolling country roads, surrounded on either side by old, shady trees, and farmland. When they reach the town of North Beach, from the crest of the hill they can see the Chesapeake Bay stretching out down below them. They park in a lot across the street from the boardwalk. The air smells like funnel cakes and Cynthia breathes in the sweetness that to her is the smell of summer. There are crowds of people, and vendors selling hot dogs and ice creams. Cynthia's mother pays the admission price and they carry their beach chairs and cooler down across the hot sand, making their way around other families with their blankets, chairs and umbrellas, and kids making castles in the sand. Cynthia heads directly down to the water. There is a large swimming area that is surrounded by netting to keep the jellyfish out. It is full of kids splashing and playing and clinging to tubes, and grownups wading hip deep in the cool, murky water. The ground under Cynthia's feet is squishy and slick.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Compare & Contrast**



**Directions:** The words and phrases below are taken from the reading passages. Next to each one, indicate whether it is something that happened at Ocracoke (O) or North Beach (NB).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. There is a steady, crashing roar as waves run up the beach again and again
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The boardwalk
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The air smells like funnel cakes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Crowds of people
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. They can drive their 4x4 right onto the deserted beach
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The Chesapeake Bay
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Admission price
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Netted swimming area
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Fishing poles
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The Atlantic Ocean
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Kids clinging to tubes
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Cool, murky water
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Birds dive down into the water for fish

**14. Describe the difference between the journey to get to Ocracoke and the journey to get to North Beach.**

---

---

## ANSWERS

1. O

2. NB

3. NB

4. NB

5. O

6. NB

7. NB

8. NB

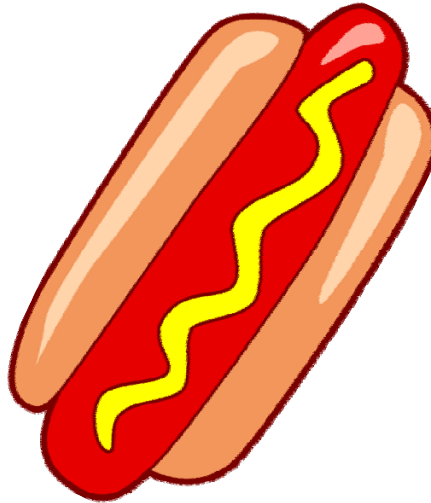
9. O

10. O

11. NB

12. NB

13. O



14. To get to Ocracoke they have to drive down the Outer Banks of the North Carolina coast, crossing from island to island until they reach the island of Ocracoke. To get to North Beach they have to drive down windy, rolling country roads, surrounded on either side by old, shady trees, and farmland.