7th Grade, St. Claire Walker Middle School

Middlesex County

A Day in the Life of an Oyster - A Diary Entry

7 AM

Once I woke up, all I could see was green. I couldn't even see my fishy friends! So as normal, as soon as I woke up in the morning I started working. This isn't anything new to be honest, It's my job to filter the body of water in which I live.

8 AM

After about an hour I started to get bored because sitting here isn't too exciting, but then I remembered that I was right next to my best pal, Marlin the Oyster! He doesn't think we are friends, but what does he know am I right. He is always such a grouch. I started to talk to him but then I soon realized he was ignoring me ... again. I hoped that he would be in a

better mood later.

10:30 AM

Another hour or so passed and I overheard some fish talking about the difference between brackish water, saltwater and freshwater. They said that brackish water is a mix between saltwater and freshwater. I don't think they have all their facts straight though, because they said that oysters can't survive in freshwater and saltwater. Like dude, I'm an oyster and oysters are so cool, so that means we can survive anywhere, Or so I

thought.. I decided to go ask Marlin if the fish were true and he said "My great grandpa decided to test out that theory and he never came back." I guess the fish were right, but that doesn't stop me from being any less cool.

12 PM

You know when you're hungry and you can't concentrate on anything?... Well, that's happening to me again. I guess that means I have to filter more water. So much work, but that's what I'm made to do. Anyways, I was watching some fish passing by and I realized, I have no clue what I look like. I'm assuming I look like Marlin but a little younger, no offense Marlin.

2:30 PM

This is usually the time of day where I get in my head and start thinking of random things. Like will we ever know how many scales a fish has? Or what it feels like to fly? Sadly I am stuck here in the water. Honestly the bay isn't too bad, I get to see my friends passing by all the time, I get to talk to Marlin, and I get to filter water! From what I've heard I filter at least 50 gallons of water a day. I'm one cool oyster if I do say so myself.

4:30 PM

Sometimes I really start to wonder about weird things like, if oysters can live up to 25-30 years why do most only survive for 6

years? Why can oysters like me only survive in brackish water and saltwater? After a while I decided to go to Marlin for some answers, and he said "Well, oysters need some salt in the water they filter and...Sometimes oysters only live up to six years because some of us get eaten" I guess he is right, I mean it's Marlin after all, I never doubt or second guess Marlin.

6 PM

This is the time of day where I start to get super bored, like super bored. I was just chilling, minding my own business, when I suddenly heard someone singing, all I heard was "OYSTERS ARE SO AMAZING, WE ARE THE GREATEST CREATURES TO EVER LIVE." I was trying to find out who was singing, but then I realized it was Marlin. I wonder what's got him in such a good mood. I decided to ask him why he was singing, when I went up to ask him, he immediately stopped. He said "Well, I'm not always a grouchy oyster you know."

7 PM

I started to get a little tired and I think Marlin is too, he keeps drifting off to sleep but I think I keep waking him up by talking to him. When I was watching the fish pass by it started to get dark. I don't really like when it gets dark to be honest, it's kind of scary in the bay after dark. I think I'm going to hit the seaweed soon.

I talked to Marlin for a little while longer, even though I was probably just talking to myself because I don't think he was even awake. Even though half the time he doesn't listen to me when I talk it's nice to feel like someone is listening to me. Today has been a very eventful yet boring day and I think that I'm going to call it a night!