**The Many Faces of Fort Matanzas**

Words and Music by: Cameron Moten

**Lyrics:**

Sandy beaches, clear blue skies

Every day a new surprise

Welcome to Fort Matanzas

Plants are growing all around

Lots of creatures to be found

It’s like a painting on a canvas

*It’s so easy to only focus on the fort*

*But don’t miss your chance to see what else we have in store*

*The many faces of Fort Matanzas*

*There’s so much more here than brick and stone*

*Let’s see the plant life and understand this*

*Let’s meet the creatures that call this land their home*

Sea oats form a green platoon,

they’re the anchor of the dune

They really save the sand here

Gopher tortoise underground,

Really knows how to get down

But they still share their land here

*It’s so easy to only focus on the fort*

*But don’t miss your chance to see what else we have in store*

*The many faces of Fort Matanzas*

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*Let’s see the plant life and understand this*

*Let’s meet the creatures that call this land their home*

Let’s start with the plants

Toothache tree can dull the pain

Hercules club is its name

Leaves like medicine

The resurrection fern goes brown

Comes to life when the rain falls down

Turns green again

Live oak, and cedar, and mangrove trees

All survive near the salty beach

Never out of reach

Yaupon holly leaves

Used by the natives to make a special tea

Called it black drink

Animals

Least tern’s an endangered bird

It’s protective of its young, you heard?

We got the Anastasia beach mouse

Spreads the seeds of the sea oats

Cause we gotta hold the beach down

Owls, and bobcats, coyotes, raccoons,

They’re all nocturnal chillin’ under the moon

We got the loggerhead, leatherback, green turtles too

Lay their eggs in the sand as they each pass through

We got all sorts and kinds of precious life

It makes you take a second and think twice

Am I really treating nature right?

Am I picking up my trash?

Am I staying on the trails?

Can I help to make this last?

Can I help to make a change?

What sort of efforts can I arrange?

Can I lend a helping hand,

Keep pollution out the sand?

All these creatures call this home

So we must protect this land

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