Shrimping Vessel Vocabulary

- Otter Trawl: The type of net that fishermen pull behind the boats to catch fish.
- Head Rope: A line that runs along the front and top of the net, attached with floats to keep the net open.
- Foot Rope: The line at the front and bottom of the net. The foot rope has weights on it to keep the net on the bottom.
- Tickler Chain: A chain that is attached in front of the foot rope. The tickler chain drags along the seafloor and forces the shrimp to jump up in front of the net and get caught.
- Doors: The large wooden panels force the net to spread open as it is pulled through the water.
- Wings: The front sides of the net where the doors are attached.
- Cod End: The bag at the end of a net where shrimp are caught.
- Lazy Line: A rope attached around the cod end of the net that helps the fishermen bring the net aboard the boat when it is full.
- Try Net: This is a small net (12-16 feet in width) that it towed during regular trawling operations and occasionally lifted to determine the amount of shrimp in the catch.
- TED: is a grid of bars with an opening either at the top or the bottom of a trawl net. The TED allows small animals like shrimp to pass through the bars and are caught at the end of the trawl. When larger animals, like sea turtles and sharks, are caught in the trawl, they hit the grid bars and are released through the opening.