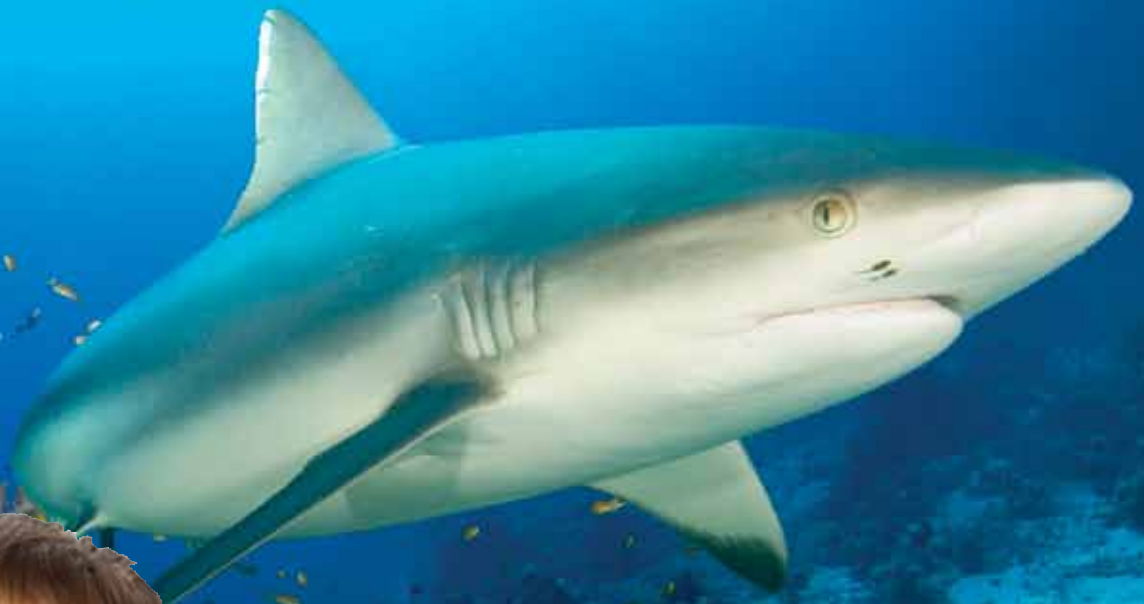




2010 - 2011
SCHOOL PROGRAMS
WASHINGTON, DC



FREE ADMISSION FOR WASHINGTON, DC PUBLIC SCHOOL GROUPS, VISIT NATIONALAQUARIUM.ORG



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Visit the Aquarium

Dear Educator,

We are delighted that you have chosen the National Aquarium's Washington, DC location for your field trip. In this online brochure, you will find information about classroom programs that are designed specifically for your students. And be sure to see a special stipend-based program sponsored by Toyota Foundation and designed especially for you!

Please plan your field trip date and reserve your classroom program early as space is limited. We are looking forward to welcoming you and your class to our newly-renovated aquarium where we celebrate our nation's protected aquatic sanctuaries—*America's Aquatic Treasures*.

Daily Feedings

Each day at 2 p.m., our aquarists offer a brief talk during an animal feeding. To learn which animals will be fed on the day of your visit, visit our web site at nationalaquarium.org.

Free Admission for Washington, DC Public School Groups

Washington, DC Public School and Public Charter School groups are admitted free of charge Monday through Friday with proper teacher identification from the school AND a confirmed reservation. All other groups with a reservation pay a reduced admission, but must make a single payment to qualify for the special rate.

Engaging and Memorable On-Site Programs for Your Class

The Aquarium offers a variety of age- and grade-appropriate education programs for students. Many programs include teaching materials and classroom review worksheets. A modest program fee ensures your reservation. Programs are free for Washington, DC Public School and Public Charter School Groups. Reservations are required for all programs. Reserve early to obtain your selected date.

A Stipend-Based Science Program for Teachers

Educators may apply for the Aquarium's Toyota-sponsored program *Aquatic and Marine Science for Today's Classroom Teacher*. Receive an educator's stipend along with classroom instruction, helpful teaching materials and teaching aides. For more information, visit nationalaquarium.org.

Aquarium Facts, Fees, Fun and More!

The National Aquarium and its education programs are available year round, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

School Group Admission Fees

Admission to the Aquarium is FREE for Washington, DC Public School and Public Charter School groups. Special reduced admission rates are available to all other school groups. To obtain the Aquarium's special school group admission rate, the group must have a confirmed reservation with a minimum of 15 students ages 3 and over.

Current group rates are:

Pre-K-Grade 6: \$2

Grades 7-12: \$5

Admission fees are subject to change without notice.

Program Fees

The National Aquarium offers a range of age- and grade-appropriate educational programs for your class.

For Pre-K through grade 6, a classroom program can accommodate up to 25 in a session. For grades 7-12, the maximum program size is 20. If your group is larger than 20 or 25, you will need to schedule additional classroom time to accommodate your entire group.

Fees are based on program length and many include materials and follow-up classroom activities. Reservations are required and program fees must be paid in advance.

15 minute program: \$10

30 minute program: \$20

45 minute program: \$30

Programs for Washington DC Public School and Charter School groups are offered FREE of charge, but require advance reservations.



Chaperones

The National Aquarium requires that each school group be accompanied by adult chaperones at all times. **Teachers count as chaperones.** Free student groups from DC Public Schools and Public Charter Schools will follow the same free chaperone policy as all other groups:

Pre-K and K: 1 free for every 5 students

Grades 1-5: 1 free for every 6 students

Grades 6-8: 1 free for every 8 students

Grades 9-12: 1 free for every 10 students

Special Education: 1 free per student if needed and requested

Additional chaperones are \$7 each.

Deposit

A deposit of \$75 towards Aquarium admission AND all fees for education programs are due 21 days prior to your visit date. Purchase orders and vouchers are not accepted in lieu of payment. Deposit requirements for DC Public and Public Charter Schools with free admission may vary.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

If you cancel your program reservation more than 21 days in advance of your scheduled visit, all payments will be refunded. If you cancel your reservation less than 21 days in advance, or fail to arrive for your scheduled program, you forfeit the program fees. Groups that are 15 minutes late forfeit classroom program time and program fees.

Schools that cancel late or do not show up for programs will be charged a \$75 cancellation fee.

Take Home Memories

The Aquarium's AquaShop offers a variety of marine-focused books, gifts and mementoes at a wide range of prices.

Dining Options

The Aquarium does not have dine-in facilities. There are local restaurants and food courts that may be an option for your group during your trip. While groups may carry their lunches, no eating or drinking is allowed within the Aquarium.

Education Programs for All Ages

Enhance your students' Aquarium visit by creating meaningful and memorable encounters with our living collection. Enroll your students in age- and grade-appropriate education programs to help students understand the magic and mysteries of the aquatic world and appreciate the amazing variety of creatures that live in and rely on water. All National Aquarium education programs are designed to meet National Education Standards.

Review Worksheets

Many of our Education Programs have review worksheets that can be utilized by the classroom teacher. Visit nationalaquarium.org to download a copy of the appropriate review worksheet.

Special Programs

Programs can be modified for the high school age group. Don't see a topic that meets your needs? Specialized programs that will supplement your curriculum can be developed. Call our education department to discuss your needs.

The Right Stuff: From Pre-K to Grade 12

Story Time

15 minutes, Grade Pre-K (Monday and Wednesday)

Story time sessions include a story from the work of children's author Suzanne Tate. Choose one: *Ellie & Ollie Eel*; *Great Sharky Shark*; *Izzie Lizzie Alligator*; *Oozey Octopus*; *Spiny Sea Star*; *Stevie B. Seahorse*; *Tammy Turtle*.

What Is a Fish?

30 minutes, Grades K-3 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Students learn how fish are different from other animals and how their special characteristics make them well-adapted for survival in their watery environment.

How to Be a Fish Detective

45 minutes, Grades 3-5 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

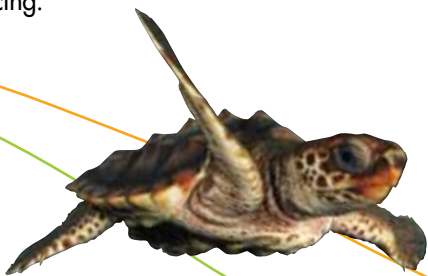
Students learn about the characteristics of fish and their adaptations for survival in their environment. Activity worksheets to be completed while at the Aquarium are available at nationalaquarium.org.

Secrets of the Shark

30 minutes, Grades K-3; 45 minutes, Grades 4-8

(Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Students learn about sharks' unique biology, separate fact from fiction about these misunderstood animals and become aware of the threats sharks are facing.



Coral Reefs

45 minutes, Grades 4-8 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Often called "rain forests of the sea," coral reefs provide numerous services to animals and people. Students learn how these environments play a vital role in our ocean ecosystem and why they need protection.

Aliens Among Us... Invasive Species

45 minutes, Grades 4-8 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Students are introduced to animals and plants from around the world that have invaded the local ecosystem, their impact on our environment and the problems they are creating for native species. How did they arrive in strange places and what can be done about it?

Endangered Species

45 minutes, Grades 4-8 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Students gain background knowledge about the Endangered Species Act, learn why animals are becoming endangered and understand why biodiversity benefits us all.

Amphibians and Reptiles

45 minutes, Grades 4-8 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Students learn about the fascinating world of slimy and scaly creatures and why they are important today.

Estuaries

45 minutes, Grades 4-8 (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Using the Chesapeake Bay as a model, students learn how estuaries play an important role for wildlife and why their health and preservation is crucial for the survival of numerous species.

Plan Your Visit

To Schedule an Aquarium School Program

Prior to reserving your program date, select several possible dates and times to visit. Morning sessions fill more quickly than afternoons, so you may want to consider planning an afternoon visit.

A school visit and program must be reserved, and a deposit and program fees paid in advance.

Upon receipt of your reservation acknowledgment, verify all information and return the signed agreement with your deposit. You must confirm your reservation at least 21 days prior to your visit to prevent cancellation. You will receive a pre-trip planning packet with useful information for everything you need to know before you visit.

Reserve Your School Program Today!

Call: 202-789-AQUA (202-789-2782)

To Plan Your Self-Guided School Group Visit

If you are planning a self-guided tour for your class, without one of our programs, your group can still receive the special, reduced school group admission rate. To obtain this rate, a reservation is required and deposit made 21 days in advance. The Aquarium does not bill, accept purchase orders or issue pre-payment tickets.

Confirmations are sent for all reservations. When you receive your confirmation, please review all of the information and inform us of any discrepancies. Your deposit and a signed copy of your reservation are due 21 days prior to your visit.

Plan your self-guided school group visit today! Call our reservation department (202-789-2782) to schedule your visit. You can use the form below as a guideline to be prepared to make your reservation. Should you need additional information, you may contact the education department:

By phone: 202-482-0852

By FAX: 202-482-4946

By e-mail: education@nationalaquarium.org

Rules to Remember

1. Teachers, you are responsible for the behavior of your students. Please maintain control of your class.
2. No food or drink is allowed in the National Aquarium.
3. Please instruct your students not to tap on the aquarium glass or tanks. This may stress or injure the animals.
4. Running, horseplay and shouting are not permitted within the Aquarium.

5. There is no waiting area in the Aquarium. Groups are not allowed to wait in the upstairs lobby or on the stairs for their buses. This is being strictly enforced! Call the bus at least 10 minutes before you are ready to leave to come pick up your group or to make arrangements for the bus to meet you at a particular time.
6. **Full payment of remaining balance is due upon arrival in one lump sum. Approved forms of payment are cash, check, Visa and MasterCard.**
7. The National Aquarium reserves the right to ask any group displaying inappropriate behavior to leave the facility.

To Assist You in Making a Reservation

Use this form to help you when calling to make a reservation:

Group

Teacher Contact

Grade/Age

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

E-mail

_____ Number of Students FREE

_____ Number of Adults FREE

_____ Number of Students at \$2

_____ Number of Adults at \$7

_____ Number of Students at \$5

Planned Visit Date

Time

Alternate Visit Date

Time

Which program are you interested in?