

All of these programs are STEM-focused and allow students to ignite their curiosity of the ocean ecosystem all around us by interacting hands-on with our animals.

We travel to you! Pricing can be found on our website.

Sharks, Skates, & Rays

🕒 45 minutes

Students will be thrilled by this engaging class that showcases the external features and structures of sharks, skates, and rays. We'll talk about the myth of sharks as man eating monsters and show students they don't need to be scared. We'll also discuss how sharks are at risk as their environment changes. Everyone will get the exciting opportunity to touch a shark & a skate!

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2, LS3
NGSS: LS2, LS4

Secrets of Survival

🕒 45 minutes

Students will identify and explain how the specific structures of an animal allow it to defend itself in this interactive class about the many creative ways animals avoid being eaten. Protective behaviors such as camouflage, schooling and habitat selection are discussed in depth and students will learn how plants and animals in each ecosystem depend on each other.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2, LS3
NGSS: LS2, LS4

RI Beachcombers

🕒 45 minutes

How do animals survive ever changing conditions in their environment? We explore this question with items commonly found on beaches & in tidepools, as well as the live animals who created them. We bring dry samples of many artifacts from RI beaches, such as quahog shells, spider crab exoskeletons, & skate eggs. Then, we will compare them with live animals.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2
NGSS: LS4

Aquarium Tank

🕒 2 or 4 weeks

Looking for a longer time with our animals? Let us set up a tank in your classroom! We do the work; you can focus on the lessons. Each week we will introduce a new set of animals.

We provide a curriculum guide, food, & instructions. Your students will see how plants & animals depend on each other in an ecosystem, observe how these animals protect themselves, & identify sources of energy needed for survival.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2, LS3
NGSS: LS2, LS4

Classification

🕒 45 minutes

This class, which aligns perfectly with 3rd and 4th grade expectations, gives students a fun look into grouping and classifying animals based on external structures and features. We bring animals that are easy to recognize and fall into one of four different phyla. By investigating what makes them similar and different, we can decide which phylum each belongs to.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2
NGSS: LS4

Traveling Tidepool

🕒 2+ hours

Is your class the explorative & energetic type? This is their program! Our tidepool bins contain animals like starfish, sea urchins, & whelks, as well as hermit & horseshoe crabs for hands-on exploration of the animals' external features. We also set up a tank with other animals like minnows, pipefish, & brittle stars. Groups come visit at their own pace & our staff will educate & answer questions about the animals.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2
NGSS: LS4

Mysteries of the Deep

🕒 45 minutes

This class introduces your students to the deepest dwelling fish & invertebrates that live in the ocean. We'll talk about how difficult it is for animals to live in the deep, as well as show the major adaptations that help these animals survive. Your students will see rare preserved specimens and puppet-like models of these animals to learn about their fascinating lives!

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2, LS3
NGSS: LS2, LS4

Echinoderms & Mollusks

🕒 45 minutes

This class about slow moving animals is anything but slow! This program will excite students with sea stars and sea snails while teaching them that these amazing animals need water, food, and shelter to survive & reproduce just as humans do. The animals have unique feeding methods, allowing us to dive into a discussion of basic food webs & how features help these animals survive.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2
NGSS: LS2, LS4

Crustaceans & Exoskeletons

🕒 45 minutes

What is a crustacean? Why are exoskeletons a good defense against predators? We'll guide students to the answers to both questions & more in this class that emphasizes structure & function of crustacean anatomy. We'll also discuss invasive species & how they disturb the balance of local ecosystems.

Students will touch many crustaceans including lobsters & hermit crabs, as well as dried molts.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2, LS3
NGSS: LS2, LS4

Intro to Marine Animals

🕒 45 minutes

Our most popular class gives students the opportunity to interact with different animals, including sea stars, clams, spider crabs, & a pufferfish. We'll also bring dried samples & students will explain what is alive & what isn't. They'll learn about how these animals move as well as who eats whom to construct a basic food web for the tidepool ecosystem that these animals call home.

RI GSEs: LS1, LS2, LS3
NGSS: LS2, LS4