

EDUCATION AT THE OKLAHOMA AQUARIUM

Educating Through Experience

School's in session! The Oklahoma Aquarium is a year round educational facility that offers a variety of programs, classes and learning experiences for children ages 3-103! While the fish and other animals that live at the Oklahoma Aquarium are often the focus of our lessons, we also dive into more broad environmental education.

Outline of Our Education Packet:

- Field Trips and Education Programs
- Plan Your Field Trip
- On-Site Education Programs
- School Break Camps
- Homeschool Days
- Scout Days

For More Information

Our Website:

For the most up to date information on events and news at the Oklahoma Aquarium, please visit our website: www.okaquarium.org. You can also keep in touch with us through facebook and twitter.

Contact:

Oklahoma Aquarium

P.O. Box 910
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Jenks, OK 74037

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Education Department

education@okaquarium.org

Phone: (918) 528-1508
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Field Trips and Education Programs

School Programs are in Session!

The Oklahoma Aquarium is currently accepting reservations for the 2010-2011 school year. To make reservations, please visit our website okaquarium.org and download the Education Department reservation form .

Our programs will enhance your students' visit to the Oklahoma Aquarium, allowing them to explore a variety of aquatic science topics.

The Education Department of the Oklahoma Aquarium strives to educate and motivate all of our guests to become active conservationists by instilling an appreciation for our natural resources. There's no better way to foster that appreciation than experiencing the wonders of the world's waters through the up-close, even hands-on excitement at the Oklahoma Aquarium.



Self Guided Tours

Bring your class to the Aquarium for a fun, self-paced journey through our exhibits. The Education Department will provide resource materials and activities that can be utilized by you and your students.

Classroom Programs

Give your students the added experience of learning about aquatic life with a 20-45 minute program with our Education Staff. After your time in the Education Classrooms, take a self-paced tour through the Oklahoma Aquarium.

PASS Objectives

All Oklahoma Aquarium school programs are developed by our education staff to assist teachers in meeting the Priority Academic Student Skills adopted by the Oklahoma State Board of Education. More information is available on our website, www.okaquarium.org.

Plan Your Field Trip

Hours of Operation:

Education Department group rates are available Mon.-Fri. 10:00am-4:30pm only. Some exceptions can be made with advance notice. Closed Christmas Day.

Reservations:

- Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.
- We are taking reservations for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Reservations are taken by mail, e-mail, or by fax. For your convenience we accept checks, money orders, credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, and American Express) and purchase orders.
- Pricing: Self-guided Aquarium visit- \$6 per student \$10 per chaperone. Classroom program with Aquarium visit - \$7 per student \$10 per chaperone.
- If paying by purchase order upon arrival, you will need to provide an exact head count of all children and adults in your group. At this time, you will be given an invoice.
- The balance must be paid in full at the time of your visit unless paying by purchase order.
- You will receive confirmation of your reservation after processing. If you do not receive confirmation, your visit is not confirmed. Please contact the Education Department if this occurs.



Chaperones:

- The minimum number of chaperones is based on student age. For children ages 3-6, one adult is required per 5 students; 7 and up, one adult per 10 students. Chaperones are admitted at a cost of \$10 per person.

Memberships:

- Memberships do not apply to admission fees for school groups.

Cancellation/Refund:

- Please inform the Aquarium of any cancellations either by e-mail at education@okaquarium.org or by phone at 918-528-1508.

Plan Your Field Trip (continued)

Arrival:

- Groups are responsible for arriving on time.
- Check in at our administrative offices, north of the main entrance.
- Please wait until your entire group has arrived before checking-in.
- If you arrive late and have a classroom program scheduled, we will do everything possible to accommodate your group. However, if you arrive more than 30 minutes after your scheduled time, we may not be able to offer the classroom program due to other reservations.

Availability:

- All dates, programs, and times are subject to availability.

Lunch:

- Students may bring a bag lunch or you may order box lunches through our Catering Department at (918) 528-1507.
- Arrange to keep them in your vehicles until lunchtime. We do not have storage space for lunches.
- Outdoor eating areas are available for groups. We will try to accommodate you during inclement weather.
- No food, gum, or shoes with wheels are allowed in the Aquarium galleries.

The Oklahoma Aquarium reserves the right to modify program offerings.



On-Site Education Program Offerings

Pre-K and K

Meet & Greet! Here is your chance to bring your young students up close to animals featured in the Aquarium! Students will interact with an Aquarium Educator focusing on the adaptations and behaviors of a "star" animal at the Oklahoma Aquarium. 20 minutes.



Grades 1-3

Who Eats Who in the Deep Ocean Blue?

Predator or Prey? It's a fish-eat-fish world out there! How can fish and other animals survive? Explore the ocean food webs and see unusual ways that fish avoid being lunch! 30-40 minutes.

Completely Cartilaginous! No bones about it! Sharks, skates, and rays are very different from other fish in the sea. Explore these differences and begin to break the stereotypes of why such magnificent creatures have a bad reputation. 30-40 minutes.

Eight Armed Bandits: 8 Armed Bandits focuses on the most intelligent invertebrates on the planet. Students will learn about cephalopod anatomy and behavior, including a look at cephalopod giants. You'll be amazed at their unique features and size.

A Seahorse of a Different Color: With the head of a horse, tail of a monkey and armor of an armadillo, the slowest fish in the sea is always fascinating. This program provides an overview of basic biology and ecology of seahorses, their importance to the food web and the status of their survival. 30 minutes.

Grades 4-6

We all live downstream: This program helps students better understand water pollution. Another goal is to explain why it is so difficult to determine the source of pollution in order to stop it from occurring. We also give students ideas on how they can become part of the pollution solution! Maximum of 30 Students. 45 minutes

Creeps from the Deep! The deep ocean is filled with many very strange and wonderful creatures. This program explores the ocean depths and looks at some of the more interesting and exciting animals found in this abyss. A special and popular feature is the study of bioluminescence and unique organisms that create their own light. 30-40 minutes.



On-Site Education Program Offerings (continued)

Cephalopods: Our focus is to teach you about cephalopods (octopus, squid, cuttlefish, and chambered Nautilus). Cephalopods are amazing animals that possess the highest intelligence of any invertebrate. Imagine being color blind but still being able to change your color and your texture in a millisecond. Come meet our ambassadors of the cephalopod world in person at the Oklahoma Aquarium
30 minutes.

Sea Turtle Science: A scientific look at the magnificent sea turtles of our oceans. Explore their ecology, life history, anatomical aspects, eating habits and migration routes. Students will discover the turtle's importance to humans and the terrible threat to their existence. Students will also have the opportunity see our beautiful sea turtles. 30-40 minutes

Grades 7-12

Turning the Tide! The ocean has been viewed as a vast never ending resource. But we are gradually beginning to realize, that the oceans are actually fragile and have been seriously impacted by human interaction. Marine life has been seriously depleted. Some species have become extinct and many ecosystems have become seriously imbalanced. This program is designed to acknowledge the problems the oceans are facing, and identify positive, corrective action. 40-50 minutes.

The Inside Story! You've seen the Oklahoma Aquarium from the front of the exhibits, now it's time to see what happens behind the scenes. This 45-minute tour takes you from filtration to food prep and shows the work it takes to run a beautiful, dynamic aquarium! Maximum group size of 25 only allowed for this program. **NOTE: ALL STUDENTS AND ADULTS MUST WEAR CLOSED TOE SHOES FOR THIS TOUR. NO FLIP-FLOPS OR SANDALS.**

Completely Cartilaginous and Creeps from the Deep! (See above descriptions) are recommended as multi-age or multi-grade programs.

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School Break SeaCamps

Are you looking for an exciting adventure on school holidays during the year? Let us provide an enriching camp experience. Each camp includes animal encounters, hikes through the Aquarium, crafts, science experiments, games and outdoor recreation (weather permitting). School Break SeaCamp is designed for children in grades K-5th. Each camp day is from 9 am to 4 pm. Morning and afternoon care is available for an additional \$5 per day fee with early drop-off starting at 8:00 am and late pick up until 5:30 pm.

Winter Break SeaCamp

December 20th-23rd, 2010

Spring Break SeaCamp 2011

March 14th-18th, 2011

Summer SeaCamp 2011

Dates TBA

- Daily Camp: \$50, before and after care is provided if needed
- One Week Camp: \$200, before and after care is provided if needed



Homeschool Days

The Oklahoma Aquarium's Education Department has reserved special dates for homeschool groups. On these dates, our classroom programs are reserved for homeschool families only. **October 5, 2010, December 7, 2010, February 1, 2011, and April 22, 2011.**

- \$7 per student (age 3 and over), \$10 per adult (cost includes the price of aquarium admission.)
- Pre-registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and must be received no later than 2 business days before Homeschool Day. To pre-register you will need to e-mail the Education Department at education@okaquarium.org
- Check in times for Homeschool Day: 10:00am - 11:00am and 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- We cannot facilitate arrivals outside of these check-in times.
- If you do not pre-register, you will be directed to general admission and will not receive the discounted rate.

Homeschool Day consists of a self-guided tour of the Aquarium, and your choice of one of our two educational presentations, one occurring at 11:00am and the other at 2:00pm. For more information go to www.okaquarium.org.

Scout Days

The Oklahoma Aquarium hosts Scout Days to honor all youth organizations and their members (such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, 4-H, FFA, etc.). Scout Days are held during regular public hours: 10:00 am until 6:00 pm (last ticket sold at 5:00 pm).

- The cost is \$7 per student (age 3 and over) and \$10 per adult (cost includes the price of aquarium admission), while children under 3 are free.
- To receive these discounted prices, youth organization members must be in uniform or carrying an organization membership card.
- An adult must accompany a youth organization member; maximum of one adult per child admitted at discounted price.
- Junior Marine Biologist badges may be earned by fulfilling requirements that will be available at the Aquarium that day. Patches may be purchased for an additional \$3.

Please feel free to call the Education Department at (918) 528-1508 for any questions or go to www.okaquarium.org for a list of upcoming dates. We will look forward to seeing you all here on Scout Day!



Science Under the Stars

Parents are an important part of any child's education so join us at Science Under the Stars. This program is designed to get parents and students participating together by utilizing innovative programs and hands on activities. These fun filled evenings spark a child's interest in the world around them and the amazing creatures inhabiting our planet. The excitement and sense of accomplishment becomes apparent as they discover the weird, wacky and wonderful!

Dates: October 5, 2010, November 2, 2010, February 1, 2011, March 1, 2011 and April 5, 2011

Science Under the Stars times are from 6:30pm-8:00pm and program descriptions may be found at www.okaquarium.org



