



First Grade

Station 1: Dock Life

Students will learn about a unique habitat in our harbor: the dock. By laying on the docks putting water scopes into the water they will see barnacles, sponges and algae. In addition they will learn that the changing tides contribute to the biodiversity on the docks. This lesson develops their classification and math skills as they discover new and interesting intertidal life at the Newport Sea Base.

Station 2: Sea & Bay Life

Birds are the most easily observed forms of vertebrate life on Newport Harbor. Students will observe these life forms on top of a floating laboratory, our pontoon boat. Students will discuss adaptations they observe in the local sea life. Students will participate in a point count survey where they will count and classify birds. Through this exercise they track birds in the harbor and make graphs of their findings. By seeing the wildlife in their habitat, students will understand the effects that noise, water and land pollution have on the birds.



Second Grade

Station 1: Rain Gutter Regatta

Students will build their own boat and will learn how to measure the motion of the boat by racing it in a rain gutter using various techniques. They will record their data and measure the lengths they sail in a defined amount of time.

Station 2: Mariners in the Making

Students will cruise Newport Harbor on our on-the-water classroom. On board they will learn how to learn map skills and demonstrate their navigation capabilities. They will also get to do a hands on manipulation of geometric shapes to create nautical code flags. They will use their newly discovered alphabet to spell out their names.



Third Grade

Station 1: Water Pollution

Students will learn the difference between streams in forests and streams in urban areas. Students will learn about urban runoff and its negative effects on the ocean water quality and ocean wildlife. They will learn how pollution gets into our water sources. They will learn the effects that polluted runoff has on the environment.

Station 2: Wetland Wonderland

Students will define wetlands and marshes. They will identify animals and plant life that call Upper Newport Bay home. Students will plot a ecological study on our own protected Shellmaker Island. They will understand why this habitat is protected and what it means to be protected. They will recount their experience in their Wetland Wonderland essay. They will do all this while traveling through the harbor and the Back Bay aboard our on-the-water classroom.



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