

Science in the Sea

LOCATION: NZ Marine Studies Centre, Portobello, Dunedin

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION:

How do scientists study the sea? What does a marine scientist do? Come and discover how University of Otago marine scientists spend their day and find out where the Research Vessel Polaris II is currently working. Students will view a diverse range of local species by getting up close with live marine species and visit the touch tanks. Students will also get the opportunity to investigate and conduct a guided experiment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

- Gain an understanding of the tools scientists use to study marine science.
- Gain knowledge on and be able to observe, gather data and run an experiment
- Develop questioning around research that marine scientists undertake.
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Extras

Gain a new or renewed appreciation of marine life and the marine environment.

Gain a new appreciation of marine science as a possible field of study or a future career.

YEAR/LEVEL Years 4-8 Levels 2-4

CURRICULUM LINKS

Nature of Science (NoS): Understanding in Science Levels 1-4 ; Investigating in Science Levels 1-4;
Communicating in Science Levels 1-2

Science:

KEY COMPETENCIES: Thinking, Using language, symbols and texts.

PRE TRIP PREPARATION: No preparation essential.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Class sets of Rocky shore and Sandy and Muddy Shore identification guides are available on application to the NZMSC.

RELATED TOPICS: Microscopes, iPads, running experiments, live marine creatures, research

PROGRAMME COSTS: \$8.00 per student (GST excl.)

PROGRAMME LENGTH: 2 hours

GROUP INFORMATION: As we will be working in a University of Otago Laboratory, students must wear closed toed shoes.

Example itinerary

10.00 am

Arrive at NZ Marine Studies Centre

LAB: Intro and overview of the programme

10.15 am

LAB: Run your own experiment using scientific equipment. Gather data and analyse results.

11.15 am

Split into 2 groups ~15 mins

i) GROUP 1: Find what tools are used to study the ocean - explore around NZMSC using iPads and displays of equipment.

ii) GROUP 2: Touch tanks & NZMSC Aquarium

11.45 am

Wrap up: What makes a scientist? How is research conducted?

12.00 pm

Wrap up and depart NZMSC (opportunity to stay for lunch)

SAFETY ACTION PLAN:

In the field: as per field operations

In Laboratory: as per Lab safety

Covid guidelines: as per government and University of Otago Covid guidelines

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