

# CHAPERONE GUIDE

Thanks for accompanying your class to the National Aquarium! As a chaperone, you play an important part in making sure students have an educational, safe and memorable experience.

## AQUARIUM MAP

Navigate our award-winning exhibits and locate restrooms, water fountains, dining options and more.

[VIEW AQUARIUM MAP](#)

## ACCESSIBILITY

The National Aquarium is committed to being a welcoming place for all our guests and offers a variety of services for those who need them.

[VISIT AQUARIUM ACCESSIBILITY PAGE](#)

[VIEW ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE](#)

## CHAPERONE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) Chaperones must stay with their students at all times. This applies to all ages and grade levels.
- 2) For the safety and wellbeing of people and animals, running and shouting are prohibited.
- 3) Please wear your chaperone sticker so it is always visible on your person.
- 4) Chaperones are responsible for student behavior in all areas of the National Aquarium, including the gift shop and dining areas.

## HELPING STUDENTS LEARN

### ENCOURAGE CARE

Many of the species in our care benefit from calm voices and slow movements. The calmer we can be, the more likely the animals will exhibit their natural behaviors. When at the touch exhibit, instruct your students to use two fingers to slowly and softly touch the tops of the animals. At all exhibits, avoid tapping on the glass.

### ASSIST STUDENTS WITH ASSIGNED PROJECTS

Ask your students' teacher about the educational goals for the trip. Find out if students will have activities, projects or worksheets to complete. Ask teachers for any information you'll need to help the students complete their tasks.

### SPEAK TO THE STAFF

Aquarium staff are available to explain exhibits and answer any questions. They love providing answers, and enjoy being stumped with a great question! Have the students think about what each animal needs to thrive in its habitat. Challenge each student to think of one question to ask.

### ATTEND ANIMAL DEMONSTRATIONS AND TALKS

Get your students engaged through feedings, animal encounters and live presentations! Upon entering, check the **Today at the Aquarium** digital message boards to see the day's schedule of events. Staff will include opportunities for students to ask questions following each program.

[VIEW DAILY SCHEDULE](#)