Aquatic and Marine Science
FOR TODAY’S CLASSROOM TEACHER

The National Aquarium invites educators in the District of Columbia Metropolitan Region to participate in a free, stipend-based program, generously funded by the Toyota USA Foundation. The Foundation supports innovative education programs such as this one with special emphasis on mathematics and science for teachers of grades K-12.

Why is the Aquarium offering this program?
The Aquarium’s unique facility and emphasis on aquatic and marine sciences provides an opportunity for teachers to apply “real world” science.

Educators will learn aquatic and marine science concepts that develop their skills and address the National Science Education Standards (NSES) that were designed to “guide our nation toward a scientifically literate society.”

Our series of teacher workshops will demonstrate how educators can use the National Aquarium to help their students meet national standards.

Will this program help me improve my students’ performance?
According to U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy’s An Ocean Blueprint for the 21st Century, environment-based education directly helps teachers address the environmental education needs of students.

Are there other benefits to me?
Yes. Participating teachers receive a stipend of $50 or $100 depending on the program; classroom materials, such as reference books and posters; a curriculum guide developed specifically for each program; and free instructional workshops.

When are the workshops and how long are they?
Workshops include 5 or 10 hours of instruction over one or two consecutive Saturdays, depending on the program you select. They take place at the National Aquarium located in the Department of Commerce Building on 14th Street (between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues). Sessions take place in October, November, December, January, February, March, April, and May. (See specific dates on the registration form.)

How large are the classes?
Space is limited to 12 participants for each session. Sessions are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Early application is encouraged.
How do I apply?
Complete the application form below and forward it along with support materials to the address provided on the form. Or you may FAX the application to the designated FAX number.

When will I know if I’ve been accepted?
Acceptance letters are e-mailed immediately upon receipt of applications. When an applicant’s first session choice is full, the second choice is confirmed. Should the second choice also be full, the Aquarium will contact you to determine if another session is workable. All spaces for workshops fill on a first-come, first-served basis.

Workshop Descriptions:

Aquatic and Marine Science for Today’s Classroom Teacher (a two-day, 10 hour workshop)
Among the topics you’ll explore are:
• Diversity of life—a basic review of biological classification
• Freshwater ecosystems—rivers, streams, lakes, bogs and swamps
• Marine ecosystems—estuaries, tide pools, coral reefs and kelp forests
• Major animal groups—fish, sharks, sea turtles and other aquatic reptiles
• How to incorporate marine and aquatic science into your curriculum
• How to utilize the National Aquarium as a classroom resource
• Other resources that are available and how to use them

Aliens Among Us: Invasion Ecology
(a one-day, 5 hour workshop)
Workshop participants will learn about some local introduced and invasive species and the problems they present. What is the difference between an introduced species and an invasive species? What can be done about the problem? Lesson plans on invasive ecology will be shared and demonstrated.

Watershed Dynamics
(a one-day, 5 hour workshop)
Participants will receive an overview of watershed science including biological, chemical and physical properties of rivers and streams. In addition we will work with topographic maps and how to use them in the classroom. Participants will receive lesson plans to help incorporate more watershed dynamics into their classroom.

Sex In the Sea
(a one-day, 5 hour workshop)
Aquatic animals exhibit many interesting adaptations for survival. When it comes to reproduction, the adaptations are as varied and strange as one can imagine. How and why do fish change sex? Why do male seahorses give birth? Is it true that a lot of animals live to reproduce and then die? Answers to these and many other questions will be explored in this new workshop to help you answer some of those questions your students may ask!

For more information call the Director of Education at 202-482-0852.

Additional Aquarium programs for students may be found at nationalaquarium.org.
Application

AQUATIC AND MARINE SCIENCE FOR TODAY’S CLASSROOM TEACHER

Please feel free to make copies.

Last Name
First Name
School Name
School Address
School Phone
Alternate Phone
Grade or Subject Taught
E-mail

☐ Yes, I would like to receive Aquarium newsletters.

Please indicate your 1st and 2nd choice for workshop dates:

☐ Aquatic and Marine Science for Today’s Classroom Teacher—October 22 and 29, 2011
☐ Aliens Among Us: Invasion Ecology—November 19, 2011
☐ Watershed Dynamics—December 10, 2011
☐ Sex in the Sea—January 7, 2012
☐ Watershed Dynamics—March 3, 2012
☐ Sex in the Sea—April 21, 2012
☐ Aquatic and Marine Science for Today’s Classroom Teacher—May 12 and 19, 2012

In addition to this application, please send the following:
1. A letter of recommendation from your Principal.
2. A 100-word statement explaining why you want to take this workshop.

Send all application materials to:
Aquatic and Marine Science Workshop
Director of Education
National Aquarium
14th St. and Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230
OR
FAX application materials to: 202-482-4946

Please feel free to make copies.