

Sciencenter Connection: Discover Ocean Life



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Even if your summer travels do not take you to the ocean, you can still spend a day exploring sea life at the Sciencenter.

Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the sea with the “Connect to the Ocean” exhibition, which features the region’s only inland marine touch tank. The salt water tide pool Touch Tank introduces guests — in a very hands-on way — to some of the animals that call the ocean home. Meet marine invertebrates like Chocolate Chip Sea Stars, Pencil Sea Urchins, Scarlet Hermit Crabs and sea snails. The Sciencenter welcomes guests to the Touch Tank from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays.

Learn what you can do to help protect the ocean by checking out the specially themed kit in the Discovery Space. Complete four fun activities to discover how climate change affects arctic and ocean environments. Check with our front desk for the Discovery Space hours.

Next, embark on a journey through watersheds to see how everyone’s actions affect the ocean with the “Ocean Bound!” exhibition. Learn how various substances travel to the sea, balance your water consumption and find the single chemical pollutant in a million. Little ones will enjoy exploring the Riverside Clubhouse where they can discover behaviors that affect ocean health, then curl up and enjoy illustrated books about watersheds, aquatic animals and conservation.

Toddlers and preschoolers are also invited to hear the story “Sea Horse: The Shyest Fish in the Sea” by Chris Butterworth and then make sandpaper seahorses on Tuesday, August 20 at 10:30 am. The weekly Curiosity Corner program explores a different theme each week and is included with admission, with kids under 3 always free.

Then head over to our Saltonstall Animal Room to meet our Lined Seahorses, along with our other ocean life, coral reef and the Red Lionfish. The Sciencenter’s Saltonstall Animal Room helps educate families about animal and ecosystem diversity, while empowering them to be stewards of their natural environment.

Before you go, stop into Sciencenter Take-Out The Museum Store to take the experience home with a selection of ocean themed toys, puzzles and games.

For a complete monthly lineup of events and activities, visit www.sciencenter.org, where you can also sign up for our monthly eNews. Like us on Facebook for exclusive photos and news.

Teresa Bell is the Public and Media Relations Manager at the Sciencenter.

Sciencenter Connection appears the second Thursday of the month in Ticket.

Online: <http://www.pressconnects.com/article/20130807/ENT/308070027/Sciencenter-Connection-Discover-ocean-life>