

Arctic Adventures Teacher Information

WHAT YOUR CLASS WILL DO AT THE AQUARIUM

Introduction

An Aquarium Educator presents an inspiring, 10-minute slide show that introduces your students to Canada's Arctic regions and the diversity of fauna that lives in this habitat.

Stations

Volunteer Educators guide small groups of six to ten students through the Aquarium's Arctic Canada gallery, viewing exhibits, visiting interactive program stations and leading group activities.

BELUGAS: Each group of students investigates the Arctic adaptations of these white whales, discussing their ice-breaking dorsal ridges, tiny pectoral flippers and the white colouring of their exceedingly blubbery bodies.

ARCTIC LAND MAMMALS: Students interact with props while exploring how Arctic land mammals are adapted to life in the far north and how they survive in this harsh climate.

ARCTIC MARINE MAMMALS: Each group sees how Arctic marine mammals are adapted to their icy marine lives. Students learn of the Inuit hunting.

LANCASTER SOUND FLOE EDGE: Students encounter a harsh, cold world of unexpected richness and discover the insulating properties of blubber.

ARCTIC FISHES AND INVERTEBRATES: Students gently reach out to touch live invertebrates and learn about their survival.

SOUND WALL: With a bit of ingenuity and a few simple props, students experiment with sensing sound in the same way as belugas do in the Arctic waters.

ARCTIC FOOD WEB: Students weave an intricate web enmeshing northern plants and animals, identifying who eats who. Students are encouraged to reflect upon human impact in the Arctic.

Wrap Up

The program wraps up with students reuniting to share experiences about what they have learned and seen. This conclusion gives Aquarium Educators an opportunity to review and clarify program themes.

Total Time of Program

1 hour and 30 minutes

Before or After the Program

You and your class are welcome to visit the Aquarium's galleries at no additional charge.

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Note: Due to the continuous development of new Aquarium displays, you may not be able to see all the animals mentioned above during your program. We regret any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.