The Vancouver Aquarium

Accessibility Document/Guide Booklet

Wet Lab
Welcome to the Vancouver Aquarium - where weird is normal!

At the Aquarium you get to see lots of different sea animals and creatures. Some you have may seen before, others might be new for you.

Come and join us in learning about all our wonderful animals!
Red & Blue

There are many special people who work together to make the aquarium the great place it is.

Some of them wear red and some of them wear blue!
The Meeting Point - Outside

When you first arrive at the aquarium you will meet your leader, either in red or blue, at the whale fountain outside.

Your leader will ask to form a line and follow them to the entrance.
Where to Enter From

In your lines, the leader will guide you to a special entrance with a big metal gate that only they can open and close!
Following the Leader

The leader will open the gate for you and allow you come inside.

Remember to stay in the line so that no one gets left behind!
The Doors are Closing

Once everyone is inside, the leader will close the gate and lead you inside the aquarium.

Remember to wait for your leader to guide you inside, otherwise you might get lost!
Doors to the Aquarium

These are the doors your leader will guide you through to get inside if your meeting point was outside at the fountain.
The Meeting Point - Downstairs

Your leader could also meet you downstairs at a place called *Teck Engagement*.

The stairs are located near the big blue globe! Remember one step at a time, no running and always hold onto the railing.
Have a Seat

This is where you will meet your leader before they guide you to the wet lab.

This is also where you can have lunch after the program is done.
Exhibits You Will Walk Through

You will be led through two different exhibits: Pacific Canada and Treasures of the BC Coast.
Following the Leader

You’ll see a lot of amazing animals along the way, but remember to keep following your leader so you don’t get lost or left behind!
Behind Closed Doors

This is the door you will be using to exit the gallery and enter into Wet Lab 1.
The Doors are Open

Your leader will open the doors to the wet lab for you and they will welcome you in.

Once inside the wet lab you will be greeted by other leaders in red and blue!
The Lab

This is the wet lab you will have the opportunity to learn in.

As you can see, there’s a ton of interesting animals and artefacts in the wet lab!
Just Hangin’

When you enter the wet lab, your leader will tell you to place your belongings on the rack.
Rinsing Our Hands

You will be asked to rinse your hands with water and (no soap).

Be careful the water might be cold or hot.
Living vs Non-living - Exploring the Artefacts

You will be able to explore and learn about the various animal artefacts in the wet lab.
Handling the Artefacts

Your leader might invite you to hold and feel the animal artefacts. They might ask you a question about what you notice.

Remember to be very careful when handling the artefacts as they can be extremely delicate.

Once you are done, hand the artefact back to your leader and wait for any further instructions.
Exploring the Habitats and Their Animals

After learning about the animal artefacts, you will have the chance to explore some of the habitats and the animals.

This is great time to ask your leaders questions and meet animals you may have never seen in person before!
Touching the Animals

You may have the chance to even touch some of the animals! Your leaders will first tell you what some of our rules are and note that only the leaders can pick up the animals!

Remember that not all the animals can be touched - wait for your leaders to tell you which ones to touch.
Handling the Animals

You may have the chance to hold some of our wonderful animals. Some animals can be picked up while others cannot. For example, your leader can pick up a sea star but not a jellyfish!

Remember that only your leaders can pick up the animals and if they say no it’s probably because the animal is either: scared, eating or sleeping!
Until Next Time – Exiting the Wet Lab

After you’ve complete the wet lab experience you will exit back into the aquarium. Your leaders will let you through the same doors you entered into the wet lab from.

Remember to take all your belongings!
Congratulations on completing the wet lab experience!

After you have gathered all your belongings, one of the leaders in red or blue will guide you to the door and give you a stamp as you exit the wet lab and go back into the Aquarium.
Thank you for coming to the Vancouver Aquarium.

We hope you had a fun and educational day at our wet lab. When you go home, tell a friend or family member about what you got to do.

See you next time!