Building Stewardship through “Estuary EDventure”

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Founded in 1993 as a non-profit stewardship program for the Tampa Bay Estuary

Our Mission:
Tampa Bay Watch is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Tampa Bay estuary through scientific and educational programs.
Estuary EDventures

“Is Tampa Bay Watch’s education program designed to provide hands-on educational experiences that promote environmental literacy and encourage stewardship”

In a year the Estuary EDventures program:

- Host 170+ field experience, reaching 3,500 students and 700 educators/chaperones
- Traveling Education Programs reaching additional students each year
- 9 weeks of summer camp, seeing 220 day campers
- 3 Teacher Trainings
- Intern and Junior Counselor Program
Estuary EDventures
School Field Experiences

• Tampa Bay Watch’s Marine Education Center was built in 2006, and is the heart of the Estuary EDventures program. Along with the 32” USCG Inspected Classroom Boat, Estuary EDventures is able to take the classroom outside and on the Tampa Bay.

• K-College level field trips. Based on 25 students per class, maximum 50 students.

• 45% of our programming is provided to Title I Schools and academically at risk students at no cost to the schools.
Estuary EDventures
School Field Experiences

• **Introduction to Tampa Bay Watch**
• **Wet Labs**
  – Seining the Bay
  – Dredge Discovery
• **Dry Labs**
  – Squid Dissection
  – Plankton Encounter
  – Marine Debris
  – Water Quality
  – Invertebrate Investigation
• **Floating Classroom Excursions**
  – Trawling Tampa Bay
  – Snorkeling
  – Eco-tours
• **Kayaking**
• **Service-Learning Restoration Projects**
Field Experiences: Wet Labs

Seine the Bay

Dredge Discovery
Field Experiences: Dry Labs

Plankton Encounter

Squid Dissection

Invertebrate Investigation

Water Quality
Clean Coast Clean Communities

- Grant funding provided by NOAA Marine Debris Program
- Partnered University of South Florida College of Marine Science and USF St. Petersburg College of Education
- Created Marine Debris / Littering module and pre-post assessment
Field Experiences:
Floating Classroom/Kayak Eco-Tour

• Otter Trawl
• Snorkeling
• Eco-tours:
  – Barrier Islands
  – Native Vegetation
  – Coastal Birds
Field Experiences: Service-Learning Projects

• Education through Restoration for students!
• Projects offered at no cost to the school
  – Sand Dune Restoration
  – Beach Cleanup
  – Salt Marsh Nursery-BGIC
  – Oyster Dome Construction
Service Learning: Sand Dune Restoration
Service Learning: Beach Cleanups
Traveling Education Programs

• Educators travel to Bay area schools
  – Eliminates expense of transporting students to our Marine and Education Center
• 60 minute programs
  – Invertebrate Investigation
  – Plankton Encounter
  – Squid Dissection
  – Water Quality
Teacher Training

• One-day free training for Bay area teachers
• Introduction to our estuary
• Curriculum overview
• Participate in our most popular field experiences!
Summer Camps

Discovery Camp – Ages 9-14

Sea Monkeys Camp – Ages 6-8
Thank you!