



## Estuary EDventures Field Experience Reservation Process

- 1) Read through the Session Highlights to familiarize yourself with the activities we offer.
- 2) Fill out the Reservation Request Form.
  - This form is available as an interactive document on our website that you can fill in online and save
  - You may also print the document, fill it out, and scan it in
- 3) E-mail the Reservation Request Form to Director of Education, Katie Mastenbrook, at [kmastenbrook@tampabaywatch.org](mailto:kmastenbrook@tampabaywatch.org)
- 4) The Director will review your request, draft an agenda, and contact you with any additional questions.
- 5) The Director will send a confirmation e-mail with the following:
  - ✓ **Agenda** for your scheduled day
  - ✓ **Invoice** detailing the total cost, any funding we provided, the deposit required, and the balance owed.

**\*\*YOUR DATE IS NOT SECURED UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THESE TWO ITEMS\*\***

*\*\*Please read through these and contact us with any changes as soon as possible (i.e. schedule, number of students, etc.) as we schedule our staff accordingly.*

- 6) The **deposit**, if applicable, must be paid within 10 days of confirmation to hold your date.
- 7) The **remaining balance** is due prior to the first day of your field experience.
- 8) A reminder e-mail will be sent the month prior to your program with information on how to prepare for your field experience.
  - Please respond with any updates, i.e. number of students/chaperones. These are listed on the agenda in the confirmation e-mail.
  - Please let us know your method of transportation.

## JOIN US FOR YOUR FIELD EXPERIENCE!

# Field Experience SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

at the Tampa Bay Watch Marine & Education Center



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS:

- 🌿 **Introduction to Tampa Bay Watch** – This presentation discusses estuary ecology, watershed dynamics, and what Tampa Bay Watch is doing to promote stewardship of the estuary through education and restoration. *\*Mandatory for first-time groups*
- 🌿 **Lab Sessions** – Participate in marine science investigations in the Education Center or outdoor wet labs.
  - **Plankton Encounter** – Students will get an opportunity to collect and identify these often overlooked organisms as well learn about their role in ocean health.
  - **Creature Corner: Invertebrate Investigation** – Roll up your sleeves and get up-close and personal with the animals that live in the Tampa Bay estuary. In this lab we have several hands-friendly animals that give students a chance to dive into scientific classification using their powers of observation.
  - **Water Quality** – Good water quality is critical to the health of the Tampa Bay estuary, but what qualifies as good water? Use scientific tools to measure and learn about the basic physical and chemical properties of water and their impact on marine life. *\*5<sup>th</sup> grade and above*
  - **Squid Dissection** – Take a closer look at the world of mollusks! Students will engage in a squid dissection to learn first-hand about their external and internal anatomy. *\*5<sup>th</sup> grade and above*
  - **Seine the Bay** – Students will venture into shallow seagrass beds and use seine nets to collect near-shore critters, use field guides for identification, and discuss the relationship between our coastal habitats and their juvenile inhabitants.
- 🌿 **Classroom Boat Sessions** – Students come aboard our Coast Guard Certified 32' Catamaran to explore, observe, and identify Tampa Bay's marine life and habitats. *\*Maximum 30 total participants, available seasonally*
  - **Trawling Tampa Bay** – Have you ever wanted to see a puffer fish up close? Or watch dolphins swim through the channels? Take a short cruise with us and enjoy all that our local waters have to offer while our staff deploys our Otter Trawl collection net through sand and seagrass areas. Take your collection back to further investigate our native species and their unique adaptations.
  - **Coastal Habitat Exploration** – Travel on the waters of Shell Key Preserve where educators will point out key habitats that make up the estuary while explaining their role. Keep an eye out on the water and in the sky to catch a glimpse of our abundant wildlife, from fins to feathers.
- 🌿 **Full-Day Sessions** – Note: These activities are designed to take up the full four-hour field experience.
  - **Snorkeling Tampa Bay** – Students will snorkel over sandy bottom habitats, seagrass beds, and get up close and personal with mangrove roots in Shell Key Preserve. Using dip nets, students and instructors will collect fun marine critters like sea stars, spider crabs, and whelks. *\*Maximum 30 total participants, available seasonally*
  - **Kayaking Tampa Bay** – Paddle through pristine Shell Key Preserve which boasts rich mangrove forests, seagrass flats and shallow waters teeming with marine life, making it the perfect place to learn about the importance of the Tampa Bay estuary. What better way to learn about the estuary and its inhabitants than from four inches off of the water? *\*Maximum 24 total participants; 6<sup>th</sup> grade and above; available seasonally*
- 🌿 **Service Learning** – These projects are designed to give students an opportunity to become stewards of the bay for the day.
  - **Sand Dune Restoration** – Students will have an opportunity to give back to Florida's natural coastline by planting sea oats. Travel with your class to our nearby restoration site at Fort De Soto Park, where your class will plant a section of juvenile sea oats that will re-establish dune habitat.
  - **Coastal Cleanup** – Trash is one of the most widespread pollution problems threatening our oceans, but it is totally preventable. Reduce, reuse, recycle, and re-think your connection to your local bodies of water by joining our team in cleaning up a section of coastline.



## FIELD EXPERIENCES

at the Tampa Bay Watch Marine and Education Center  
3000 Pinellas Bayway South  
Tierra Verde, FL 33715

GET YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AT [TAMPABAYWATCH.ORG](http://TAMPABAYWATCH.ORG).



# Estuary EDventures

## Answers to common questions

### General

- Field experiences can last up to 4 hours in one day
- All schedules will include an Introduction to Tampa Bay Watch and a 30 minute lunch break
- Groups must arrange their own transportation and lunches
- Teachers and chaperones are responsible for all disciplinary action that may be needed

### Programs:

- Review the Session Highlights page for descriptions of each of our programs.
- Select your preferred programs, keeping the minimum grade and number of total participants in mind.

### Dates:

- Specify the dates you are available to come, in order of preference.
- We cannot guarantee requested dates; reservations are made on a “first-come, first-serve” basis.
- *Date(s) is not secured until you receive a confirmation e-mail with an invoice and agenda and have paid your deposit, if applicable.*

### Group size:

- We can accommodate up to 50 students on-site in one day.
- Classroom Boat: we can accommodate a maximum of 30 participants (students and adults) on the boat at one time.
  - If you have 30-50 participants, we will have to schedule 2 boat programs on that date and pair the boating program with a lab activity.
  - If you have more than 50 participants, you will need to schedule multiple dates.
- Kayaking: we can only accommodate 24 participants (students and adults) in one day.

### Deposit & Payment:

- 25% deposit is due within 10 business days of booking.
- Final payment is due prior to first day of field experience.

### Funding

- Tampa Bay Watch receives private donations and grant funding to help offer free programming to Title I public schools and other public school groups that are on the cusp of being considered a Title I school (Free and Reduced Lunch Program Participation, Low School Grade, etc).
- Funding is dependent on group size and field trip options and is not guaranteed; it is administered at a first come first serve basis. Please let us know on the reservation request form if your school falls into any of these categories.

Cancellation Policy:

- Cancellations must be made by e-mail or phone.
  - Cancellations within 30 days of scheduled date will forfeit deposit.
  - Cancellations within 7 days of scheduled date will forfeit deposit and 50% of remaining balance.

To Book a Field Experience:

- Review the Session Highlights for program descriptions
- Fill out the Reservation Request Form online with preferred activities and dates
- Submit the Reservation Request form to Katie Mastenbrook at [kmastenbrook@tampabaywatch.org](mailto:kmastenbrook@tampabaywatch.org)

***\*\*Your date is not secured until you receive a confirmation e-mail with your invoice and schedule.***

**SAMPLE SCHEDULES (based on class size)**

OPTION 1: 25 STUDENTS & 2 ADULTS

9:00am Your school arrives  
9:00 - 9:30 Introduction to Tampa Bay Watch  
9:30 - 11:00 Classroom Boat Otter Trawl  
11:00 - 11:30 Lunch Break (*Bring your own Lunch*)  
11:30 - 1:00 Plankton Encounter  
1:00pm Group departs

OPTION 2: 25-50 STUDENTS & 2 ADULTS

9:00am Your school arrives  
9:00 - 9:30 Introduction to Tampa Bay Watch  
9:30 - 11:00 Group A: Classroom Boat Otter Trawl Group B: Plankton Encounter  
11:00 - 11:30 Lunch Break (*Bring your own Lunch*)  
11:30 - 1:00 Group A: Plankton Encounter Group B: Classroom Boat Otter Trawl  
1:00pm Group departs

## FIELD EXPERIENCE PRICING

Program	Price	Number of Participants	Minimum Grade Level
Lab Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plankton Encounter</li> <li>• Invertebrate Investigation</li> <li>• Water Quality</li> <li>• Squid Dissection</li> <li>• Seine the bay</li> </ul>	\$150.00 per 25 students	Up to 50	Squid dissection: 5 <sup>th</sup> grade Water Quality: 5 <sup>th</sup> grade
Classroom Boat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trawling Tampa Bay</li> </ul>	\$250.00 per trip	Up to 30 <i>(students and adults)</i>	All ages
Snorkeling Tampa Bay	\$400.00 per trip	Up to 30 <i>(students and adults)</i>	All ages
Kayaking Tampa Bay	\$400.00 per trip	Up to 24 <i>(students and adults)</i>	6 <sup>th</sup> grade
Service-Learning Projects	<i>(Pricing depends on funding availability)</i>	Up to 50	All ages



# FIELD EXPERIENCE RESERVATION REQUEST FORM



## BUILD YOUR OWN FIELD TRIP EXPERIENCE:

**Tampa Bay Watch gives you the ability to create and customize your own field trip experience. Here are a few helpful points to consider:**

- ✦ Every field experience includes an Introduction to Tampa Bay Watch and a 30-minute lunch break.
- ✦ Tampa Bay Watch can accommodate a maximum of 50 students per day (absolutely no exceptions, please).
- ✦ Total time cannot exceed four hours.
- ✦ Groups are responsible for providing their own transportation and lunches.
- ✦ Find out what's included in each lab by reading through the Session Highlights.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Teachers and chaperones must be involved and are responsible for student discipline issues.

Activities are selected according to the discretion of Tampa Bay Watch staff.

### STEP 1: ABOUT YOU AND YOUR SCHOOL

(All fields required)

Full name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name of chaperone on visit day (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Personal phone # (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

School name \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

### STEP 2: GROUP AND SIZE INFORMATION (ALL FIELDS REQUIRED)

Type of school:  Public  Private  Other

Needing funding assistance if available (Please elaborate below) (i.e.; Title I school, participation in free lunch program, low school grade):

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of students attending program: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level attending \_\_\_\_\_

Number of teachers/chaperones attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Mode of transportation to field trip:  
 Bus  Carpooling  How many vehicles? \_\_\_\_\_

### SPECIAL NEEDS

If anyone in your group has physical or intellectual impairment, please let us know below, and if you will need assistance from TBW staff.

### STEP 3: SELECT DATES & TIMES

If space is available, your group will be scheduled within your requested date and time frame.

List several choices (particular dates/weeks) in order of preference:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Earliest possible arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_

Latest possible departure time: \_\_\_\_\_



# FIELD EXPERIENCE RESERVATION REQUEST FORM



**SCHOOL NAME:**

## LABS - \$150 EACH

**SQUID DISSECTION**  
(GRADES 5 & UP ONLY)

**CREATURE CORNER:  
INVERTEBRATE INVESTIGATION**

**SEINE THE BAY**

**WATER QUALITY**  
(GRADES 5 & UP ONLY)

**PLANKTON ENCOUNTER**

## FLOATING CLASSROOM - \$250 EACH (30 PARTICIPANTS MAXIMUM)

**TRAWLING TAMPA BAY**

**COASTAL HABITAT EXPLORATION**

## FULL-DAY PROGRAMS - \$400 EACH

**KAYAKING TAMPA BAY**  
(MAXIMUM OF 28 PARTICIPANTS; GRADES 6 AND UP ONLY)

**SNORKELING TAMPA BAY**  
(MAXIMUM OF 30 PARTICIPANTS)

## SERVICE LEARNING (PRICING DEPENDS ON FUNDING AVAILABILITY)

**SAND DUNE RESTORATION**

**COASTAL CLEANUP**

### PLEASE NOTE:

- ✦ Teachers and chaperones must be involved and are responsible for student discipline issues.
- ✦ Activities are selected according to the discretion of Tampa Bay Watch staff.
- ✦ Each group is responsible for supplying transportation and lunch to all participants.

EMAIL THIS COMPLETED FIELD EXPERIENCE RESERVATION REQUEST FORM TO:

[KMASTENBROOK@TAMPABAYWATCH.ORG](mailto:KMASTENBROOK@TAMPABAYWATCH.ORG)