OCEAN WISE® PRESENTS
Virtual Aquaclass Program
Students will join one of our expert educators through live video conferencing in an inquiry-based discussion about a topic of your choosing. Using visual props and multimedia resources, students will utilize their creativity and critical thinking to explore the ocean. All programs are 30-45 minutes long, and include a Q&A time between students and our expert staff.

Core competencies in critical thinking, communication, creative thinking, and responsibility may be achieved through the Virtual Aquaclass Program. Curriculum links differ by grade and region.

Choose from our wide variety of programs. This program is customizable upon request to address specific interest and needs of each class. All programs are available in English or French.

For more information, curriculum connections, or to book your program, please contact us at onlinelearning@ocean.org.

**PREMIUM PROGRAMS**

**Marine Mammal Rescue Centre**

**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**

Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

The Ocean Wise Marine Mammal Rescue Centre (MMR) is the only team in Canada who can readily mobilize to help a marine mammal in distress. From sea lions to sea turtles, these rescuers do everything they can to save every animal in need. Learn about the rescue, rehabilitation and release process through an exclusive look at the MMR facility.

**Plastics Laboratory**

**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**

Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

The Ocean Pollution Research Program is actively working to increase our understanding of microplastics. From microfibers to mussels, this team is exploring the various ways that plastic has infiltrated the ocean and aiding in finding solutions to some of the most pressing problems. Take an exclusive tour in their plastic laboratory to learn about the current research, and how you too can make an impact on the plastic problem.

**Behind the Scenes Tour**

**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**

Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

For over 60 years the Vancouver Aquarium has been a global centre for ocean education, conservation and research. In this program, participants will get an exclusive look at one of our behind the scenes areas to learn about the active research, conservation and animal care taking place.
STANDARD PROGRAMS

The Wild West Coast
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary
Explore how animals are able to survive and thrive in the cold dark waters of Canada’s west coast. Meet some incredible invertebrates and examine how their unique adaptations make them successful in their environment. Explore how humans have a role to play in this important ecosystem, and why the ocean is important for every part of our daily lives.

Welcome to the Marine Jungle
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Intermediate, Secondary
Deep in the jungle of South America, there is the Amazon River, home to a wide diversity of freshwater aquatic life. Set in front of a Flooded River ecosystem, students will be amazed and engaged in this unique program all about what lives in tropical fresh water. Living in tropical freshwater is no easy feat, and in this program we will focus on the challenges a fish faces when living in tropical fresh water.

Coral Reefs: Nature’s Jungle Gym
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Intermediate, Secondary
The health of the ocean depends on its foundation, and coral reefs are the one of the most important, and most threatened, building blocks for the ocean. In this program, students will learn about the diversity of life found in tropical waters, and how it is all connected through the delicate balance of food webs and predator-prey relationships.

Inside Nature’s Creatures
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary
Students will be introduced to the phyla Cephalopoda and the key characteristics that make this group of squids, octopuses, and cuttlefish so spectacular by joining our expert educator for a live squid dissection. Through an examination of the squid’s anatomy students will discuss how an animal’s adaptation helps them to survive in their environment.
*Dissection specimen may differ based on availability

Introducing Jaws
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary
One of the most successful and misunderstood fish in the sea, sharks have survived for over 400 million years thanks to their incredible adaptations. They are found all over the world, and at every level of the food chain. Challenge misconceptions and discover with your students the wide diversity of sharks. Learn why they are important for the ocean, and how our choices affects the survival of sharks all around the world.
**2018/2019 FEATURE PROGRAMS**

**Into the Vortex**
RECOMMENDED GRADES: Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

Plastic is everywhere and incredibly valuable to humans... but it should not be disposable. More than 8 million tons of plastic enter our oceans every year – that is the same as one dump truck a minute. Moreover, there is something very simple we can all do every day to help reduce the plastic problem. Step into Vortex, Douglas Coupland’s Radical Art Installation, and think about plastic in a transformative way.

**Conservation in Action**
RECOMMENDED GRADES: Intermediate, Secondary

Ocean exploration is truly interdisciplinary. It requires close collaboration among artists, scientists, communicators, mechanics, educators, politicians, illustrators, chefs, and everyone in between. We all can have a hand in conservation and helping the environment. Learn about the various ways that citizens can contribute to conservation, the different types of careers involved and what kind of conservation is happening right now that you could be a part of.

**Reptiles and Amphibians**
RECOMMENDED GRADES: Primary, Intermediate

Learn why scientists classify animals, and examine the characteristics that define animal groups by exploring the differences between reptiles and amphibians. Students will utilize their observation and critical thinking skills to identify animal groups. They will explore the survival challenges these animals face by drawing connections between reptiles, amphibian, and even humans.

**Camouflage**
RECOMMENDED GRADES: Primary, Intermediate

Now you see me, now you don't! Camouflage is an important survival strategy employed by animals on all levels of the food chain. Explore the different strategies that animals use to camouflage into their environment in order to survive. Students will come to understand that animals come in all different shapes, sizes and colours, and these differences make animals successful in their environment.