

Community Groups at the National Marine Aquarium



Community Group definition

You are eligible for our Community group rate if you are one of the following:

- ✓ a Plymouth based registered charity
- ✓ a uniform group e.g. Scouts, guides, sea scouts etc,
- ✓ a community or local interest group registered to a PL1-PL12 postcode
- ✓ human health & mental and physical wellbeing organisation

All groups must be able to provide proof of registration on arrival.



Explorer entry to the Aquarium

All of our entry tickets for community groups are explorer visits. This means you will have a self-guided visit to the Aquarium. Our Ocean Discovery Rangers on hand throughout your visit to show you all the wonders of the Ocean, through 1 to 1 engagements, all the way up to our immersive shows, talks and workshops.

Ticket prices*

Adult £10
Child (3-15) £8
Under 3's/Carers Free

*please note, these tickets do not come with the free annual return pass to the Aquarium. To upgrade your tickets to annual returns, please speak to a member of the Community Engagement team community@oceanconservationtrust.org

Tour Options

Group Guided Tour (additional £2 per person)

We can offer your group a 2-hour guided tour of the Aquarium specifically designed to suit the needs and interests of your Community group. Each tour is led by one of our Ocean Discovery Rangers who use their comprehensive knowledge of the exhibits, and many years of experience working with people of all ages to inspire and enthral your group.

VIP Behind the Scenes Tour* (additional £10 per person)

Explore the Behind-the-Scenes areas of the National Marine Aquarium with one of our Ocean Discovery Rangers and discover the secrets of the UK's largest Aquarium. This one-hour experience will give community groups a chance to learn more about how our world class animal husbandry team care for 4000 animals across the Aquarium, from sharks to turtles!

*All visitors must be over 8 years old to participate in a VIP Behind the Scenes Tour

Workshop Options

Upgrade your visit with a workshop from £2 per person.

To make even more out of your time with us, why not add a workshop to your visit? Each of our workshops have a theme to them. Whether it is sensory activities, art, wellbeing or science we will work with you to ensure the activities meet the groups needs and interests. The workshops are designed to last 45 minutes to 1 hour, depending on group size and needs.

- Must have a valid entry ticket to the Aquarium.
- Must pre-book with one of our Community Engagement team at least 2 weeks before the date of the visit.
 - Proof of registration on arrival.



Workshop Options

Squid Dissection

Explore how animals are adapted to live underwater by doing your very own dissection! With guidance from our team, you will be able to get hands on and discover the ins and outs of Squid, learning about the lives of these fascinating creatures!

Recommended age: 8+ years



Ocean Drifters and Art

Discover the secret world of plankton, by taking part in your own plankton trawl! Our Ocean Discovery Rangers will be on hand to show you how to catch the plankton, and then use a microscope to work out what types you have found. Once we have investigated these tiny creatures, you'll then have the chance to create a piece of plankton art to take home!

Recommended age: 8+ years



Ocean Plastics

Learn about the threats of ocean pollution, and how even the smallest of plastics can be a problem in the Ocean food web! Explore the ways that we can reduce these threats and take part in designing your very own beeswax wrap.

Recommended age: 5+ years



Workshop Options

Sensory Under the Sea

Explore the wonders that the Ocean can offer the senses through our exciting sensory workshops. Act as animal rescue, using science to save critters from ice, and discover all the senses in exciting sorting activities.

Recommended age: 3 to 8 years old, and for those with additional sensory needs



Virtual Reality

Dive head first into one of our exhibits and swim with our sharks, turtle and fish, without having to get wet! Our Ocean Discovery Rangers will guide you through what you can see, and help make your experience magical. Once you have finished your virtual reality experience, you will have the opportunity to explore some Ocean artefacts, and talk about what you have seen with your peers as well as our team!

Recommended age: Any age!

"The Rangers were so engaging and bubbly, they were quick to understand the nature of our group and let them work at their own pace, putting everyone at ease. All involved had so much fun and came away with a refreshed interest in all things Ocean!"

Eat That Frog, 2022

Community Outreach: Virtual Reality



We believe that everyone should be given the chance to experience the wonders of the Ocean, no matter their age or where they live.

Our programme has seen our dedicated team of Ocean Discovery Rangers working with people from all walks of life, giving them an immersive Ocean experience, with the help of innovative VR technology.

Residents in care homes, hospitals and sheltered accommodation across the country have benefited from this project and we are continuing to grow this offering to reach more people and on a national scale.

Connectedness with nature is an important part of human life. Whether people are in a care home, hospital or nursery, they deserve the same chance to enjoy the Ocean as anyone else. These sessions are 1 hour long, and include travel within a 15 mile radius of Plymouth, for just £50.

Community Outreach

We appreciate that coming to the Aquarium is not always possible, which is why we also have an outreach programme, where we can come to you or take an adventure to the coast! Our outreach is available throughout the year, and include:



Beach cleans and litter picks



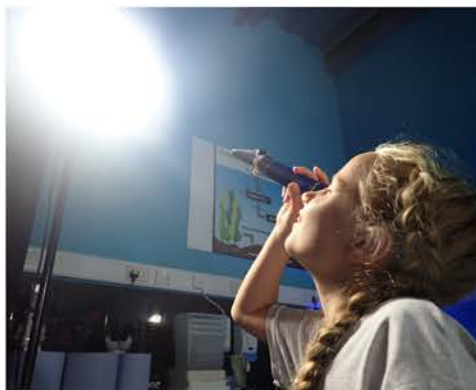
Snorkel Experiences



Boat Trips



Rockpool Safaris



Interactive workshops



Coastal walks

These sessions must be pre-booked with one of our Community Engagement team at least 2 weeks before the date of the session. If you would like more information about our Community Outreach programme, please contact us on:
Community@oceanconservationtrust.org

Virtual Community Tours

We appreciate that coming to us is not always possible, so we are now offering Virtual Tours of the National Marine Aquarium. Meet some of our favourite Ocean creatures in a jam-packed hour of fun, or sit back and relax as we guide you through our therapeutic and inspirational exhibits. We can adapt this virtual tour to fit your groups needs and interests. These 1-hour virtual tours are £80 and are hosted by our amazing team of Ocean Discovery Rangers.



How to book

To book explorer tickets to the National Marine Aquarium, please use this link:

<https://nationalaquarium.digitickets.co.uk/category/24539>

Tickets will then be posted to you, where you can redeem them within a year of ordering. Information of how to use these tickets will also be posted to you.

For large community groups wishing to booking visits with additional tours and workshops, community outreach or community virtual tours, please email the Community Engagement team at community@oceanconservationtrust.org, or call 01752 275217.

