



New England Aquarium | Central Wharf, Boston, Massachusetts 02110-3399 | (617) 973-0253

Thank you for your interest in the World of Water (WOW) Explorers program at the New England Aquarium.

WOW Explorers is a class for individuals in the 9th & 10th grade and is focused on science and education in and around the New England Aquarium. Participants in the Fall 2009 WOW Explorers program will learn the background information and the skills utilized by Aquarium staff and volunteers.

The program will consist of six classes covering the following topics:

- Getting to know the Aquarium
- Audience Engagement
- Exploring, Researching, & Learning in the field
- New England aquatic animals and habitats
- Interpretation Techniques
- Aquatic biology

At the conclusion of the program sessions, each participant will perform an oral presentation on a chosen topic for the other students and then be assessed on what they have learned and created. The purpose of the WOW program is to impact and inspire its participants not only. Please be aware that participation in the WOW Explorers program does not guarantee a position as an aquarium volunteer however it may make such positions a greater possibility.

Please complete and return the completed application plus one letter of recommendation (or the completed reference form included in this application) by October 5, 2009. Participants will be selected and notified by email or phone by October 7, 2009. Tuition for the WOW explorers program is \$400.00 and will be required to participate in the program. You must be able to attend **all** classes per session in order to participate in this program.

For any questions please contact Heather in the Harbor Discoveries Office at 617-973-0253 or send an email to harbordiscoveries@neaq.org.

Sincerely,

Heather Deschenes
Camp Programs Supervisor
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf
Boston, MA 02110
617-973-0253

Applicant Information

Please print in ink or type. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Name _____

Last

First

Gender (circle one): F M	Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____
School Name _____	Current Grade _____
Ethnicity (optional):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> African American
<input type="checkbox"/> Native American	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Contact Information

Address _____

Number and Street

Apartment #

City

State

Zip Code

Phone & E-mail *(please provide at least one phone and one e-mail, then select (check box) the method you prefer us to use when contacting you)*

<input type="checkbox"/> _____ Applicant's E-mail Address	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ Home Telephone Number
<input type="checkbox"/> _____ Parent/Guardian's E-mail Address	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ Applicant's Mobile Telephone Number
	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ Parent/Guardian Mobile Telephone Number

Have you ever visited the Aquarium or participated in our programming before?

Please check all that apply

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> School field trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Explorers class | <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Detectives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IMAX film | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whale Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Harbor Discoveries Camp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight with Family/Scouts/School | <input type="checkbox"/> Previous WOW Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium Birthday Party | |

How did you hear about WOW Explorers?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brochure | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquarium Employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Please respond to the following statements:

Are you interested in learning about aquatic animals and the environment? Why or why not?

How do you feel when talking in front of large groups such as your class?

How do you feel about talking to people, even if you do not know them?

Please complete the following sentences:

When something is hard for me to do, I _____

If someone tells me a way I can do something better, I _____

Please send this page in with your application. Thank you.

Class Selection and Date Information

The WOW Explorers program consists of six classes. To participate in this program, you must attend all six classes. Please review and complete the class calendar form and return it with your application.

The WOW Explorers program will meet on the following days. To participate in this program, you must attend all six classes. **Please initial each date to confirm that you are able to commit to attending this class.**

Class Date (all are Saturdays)	Class Time	Initials
October 17	10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	
October 24	10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	
October 31	10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	
November 7	10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	
November 14	10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	
November 21	10 a.m.- 4 p.m.	

Please read, review, and then sign the following statement regarding the New England Aquarium's conduct policy with your parent or guardian.

The New England Aquarium is a community of many people, and high standards of behavior are expected. Participating in our World of Water Explorers program includes you in that community, and you are expected to comply with these standards. Participating in WOW is a privilege that we hope you enjoy. To ensure all participants experience a positive and welcoming environment, the New England Aquarium reserves the right to send home any participant who consistently exhibits misbehavior, who willfully disobeys program rules or whose behavior towards others is unacceptable. By signing this, you and your parents agree and understand that misbehavior and willfully disobeying the rules is unacceptable.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

*** Please note: tuition will not be refunded if a participant is asked to leave the program due to a violation of our conduct policy.**

Reference for: _____

Date: _____

Please complete this form to the best of your ability. The information you provide will not only help the applicant become accepted to the WOW Explorers program, but will also provide guidance as to how the New England Aquarium can best support this person with his/her future.

How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The applicant is interested in learning about aquatic animals and the environment.					
The applicant likes to work with other people on projects.					
The applicant feels comfortable talking in front of a big group.					
The applicant arrives on time to events and classes.					
The applicant likes to try new things, even if it is something the applicant has never done before.					
The applicant can work independently and finish projects on time.					
The applicant has to be reminded about what to do a lot of the time.					
The applicant likes to help other people out.					
The applicant likes talking to people, even if it is someone new.					

We have more applicants than spaces for the WOW Explorer program. Why is the applicant a good fit for the program? We highly value your comments. (Please use the back of the page if needed.)

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Signature: _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

What do I need to send to the aquarium?

- Completed Application (pages 2-6)
- Signed Calendar (page 7)
- Signed Conduct Policy (page 8)
- Completed Reference Form (page 9) or Letter of Recommendation

Where should I send my application?

Harbor Discoveries Office - WOW
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf
Boston, MA 02110
617-973-0253

Where should I direct any questions I may have?

Please either e-mail harbordiscoveries@neaq.org or call Heather Deschenes at 617.973.0253.

Important Dates:

October 5, 2009

Application deadline

October 7, 2009

Acceptance notification date

October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14, & 21

Fall 2009 WOW Class Dates