

# DISCOVERY CENTER FIELD TRIPS



## Our Mission

Tampa Bay Watch is dedicated to fostering a **healthy Tampa Bay watershed** through community-driven restoration projects, education programs, and outreach initiatives.

## Your Experience

Join us for an unforgettable educational adventure at the **Tampa Bay Watch Discovery Center**, located on the beautiful St. Pete Pier. Our state-of-the-art facility offers a variety of field trip options designed to engage students in **hands-on marine science experiences**. Choose from or combine our interactive classroom labs, exciting boat-based programs, or seasonal water-based programs to design the **field trip of a lifetime**.

**See below to learn more about our field trip options!**



Our classroom labs offer **immersive, hands-on learning** in our modern classroom setting.



For a unique, field-based experience, **board our 45-foot eco-vessel**, "Discovery", where students can observe birds, scan the bay for manatees and dolphins, and participate in citizen science initiatives. They can also sample the seagrass and count invertebrates alongside our marine biologists using a research trawl net.



**Snorkeling is available seasonally**, allowing students to explore the underwater world of Tampa Bay.

# CLASSROOM LABS

## Invertebrate Investigation

Roll up your sleeves and get up-close and personal with the animals that live in the Tampa Bay estuary. Students interact with various invertebrates, practicing observation skills and scientific classification.

## Plankton Encounter

Investigate the vast amount of life within a water drop. Students collect and identify plankton using microscopes and learn about its role in ocean health.

## Squid Dissection

Immerse yourself in the world of mollusks. Students participate in a squid dissection to learn about their anatomy and unique adaptations.

## Lionfish Dissection

Join us to explore the ins and outs of the invasive lionfish. Uncover the truth about these problematic fish through a hands-on dissection and learn what is being done to eliminate them.



## Shark Science

Learn what makes sharks successful predators in the ocean and some of the challenges they face. Participants will leave with a new appreciation for these highly evolved (and often misunderstood) fish.

## Herpetology 101

Across Florida, you can find reptiles and amphibians slithering and leaping. Discover what makes these animals unique, and learn to identify some of their key characteristics. This program includes interactions with our live reptile and amphibian ambassadors.

## Exhibit Gallery Tour

Our exhibit gallery showcases the economic and ecological value of Tampa Bay. During this guided tour provided by an educator, students can look forward to our interactive displays, video presentations, multiple live species to observe, and even a touch tank!



## BOAT-BASED PROGRAMS

\*All boat-based programs except our Fishing Workshop include a research trawl (a gentle net is used to catch and release marine life for observation and data collection).

### Amazing Adaptations

Best for K - 5th

It's an adaptation celebration! Discover how animals' unique bodies and behaviors help them stay comfortable in their environment.

### Fintastic Fishes

Best for K - 5th

Is a seahorse a fish? What about a shark? We'll tell you what makes a fish a fish, and go on a fish finding mission to show you some of our favorite local species.

### Estuary Habitats

Best for K - 5th

From seagrass beds to mangrove roots, there are habitats galore in Tampa Bay! Come find out who lives where, and what makes an animal and its habitat a perfect pair.

### Incredible Invertebrates

Best for 4th - 8th grade

Life without a backbone comes in many different forms. Learn about the common invertebrates we find in Tampa Bay and how they survive spinelessly.

### Fishing Workshop

Ages 8 and up

Students will learn fish friendly practices, such as how to keep fish alive and well during catch and release, then practice casting a responsible line. We'll go over appropriate tackle, fish handling, how to help entangled wildlife, and how to protect your favorite fishing spots.



### All About the Bay

Best for all ages and mixed grade groups

This tour is all about our favorite estuary: Tampa Bay! Learn about bay ecology and biology and observe wildlife such as birds and fishes.

### Salty Science

Best for 8th-12th grade

What's in a drop of water? More than you might expect! Learn about water quality, harmful algal blooms, and how these things affect Tampa Bay wildlife.

## WATER-BASED PROGRAMS

### Snorkel Tampa Bay

Dive into the Tampa Bay estuary. Students will snorkel over sand flats and seagrass beds, coming face to face with native species. We use dip nets to collect animals for observation.



# PRICING

Program Type	Duration	Price	Class Size	Notes
Classroom Lab	45 min	\$200	25 participants	Includes a 45-minute guided exhibit gallery tour
Exhibit Gallery Tour Only	45 min	\$100	25 participants	
Boat-Based Program	90 min	\$300 / \$500	25 / 45 participants	Includes complimentary Discovery Center admission (guided exhibit gallery tour is an add-on)
Boat-Based Program: Fishing Workshop	120 min	\$400	15 participants	Includes complimentary Discovery Center admission (guided exhibit gallery tour is an add-on)
Water-Based Program: Snorkel Tampa Bay	120 min	\$500	25 participants	Includes complimentary Discovery Center admission (guided exhibit gallery tour is an add-on)

## Payment

Payment must be made in full one week before the scheduled program date unless other arrangements are approved by a Tampa Bay Watch program coordinator.

## Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made more than 7 days before the scheduled date will be refunded 50% of the total invoice, minus a \$25.00 processing fee. Cancellations made less than 7 days before the scheduled date will not be refunded.

Tampa Bay Watch reserves the right to cancel scheduled field trips due to circumstances that are out of our control, including weather. In the unlikely event of cancellation, we will do our best to reschedule your experience. If we are unable to reschedule at a time that works for both parties, a full refund will be issued.



Ready to book?  
[Click here](#) or scan the QR Code!