



2015 FMSEA Field Trip Options

A. Shark Swim and Lecture with Dr. Dan Huber at The Florida Aquarium (11 spaces)

Price: \$80.00

Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, plus participants may stay after program to tour the Aquarium

All Swim Gear and Lunch included

Meet up with expertly trained dive staff and Dr. Dan Huber, Associate Professor at the University of Tampa whose research focuses on Sand Tigers.

Receive an introduction to diving! Guests will wear a small SCUBA tank, regulator and floatation device keeping them on the surface, allowing them to experience the thrill of SCUBA diving from the surface, while enjoying all the sights a thriving coral reef has to offer. Guests will start off on the shallow side of the reef with sting rays, puffer fish, lobsters, and many other tropical fish before heading over to the deep side to join the Sharks! Dr. Huber will join the group on the swim!

The experience includes all gear (wet suit, mask, booties and scuba gear); guests only need their bathing suit, a towel and change of clothes. Shower facilities will be available for guests after the program.

After everyone counts their fingers and toes and cleans up from the swim, Dr. Huber will share his research on *Spinal Deformities in Captive Sand Tiger Sharks: What have we Learned?* Dr. Huber has worked with Florida Aquarium staff to study the causes of spinal deformity in captive sand tiger sharks to improve husbandry practices and reduce pressure on wild populations for exhibit specimens. He is also known for his recent work on the feeding biomechanics of white sharks.

At noon, participants can enjoy the boxed lunch provided and then visit the Aquarium.

B. FWC Aquatic Species Collecting Workshop

Price: \$20.00

Time: 10 AM – 12 PM, 1 hour break for lunch 1:30 PM -2:30 PM collecting methods at Picnic Island Park or Cypress Point Park in Tampa.

Lunch included

Need your collecting permit? Join us from 10 AM – 12 PM for a two hour workshop that will give the knowledge you will need to safely collect aquatic specimens for your classroom, then after a break for lunch join the group at Picnic Island Park or Cypress Point Park in Tampa.

C. Explore the Estuary at the Energy Marine Center

Price: \$15

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Lunch included



Join us for a tour of Pasco County School's award winning marine center and participate in exploring the uplands and wetlands of the Pithlachascotee River Watershed. This will include kayaking through mangroves to a spoil island Durney Key, seining in the estuary, and an upland walk through the surrounding Werner-Boyce Salt Spring State Park. For a sneak peek visit http://connectplus.pasco.k12.fl.us/do/eec/?page_id=155 and www.floridastateparks.org/wernerboyce/

D. Lowry Park Zoo Inside Look Tour

Price: \$15

Time: 9:15 AM – 11:30 AM (tour with zoo access afterwards)

Lunch included

Take a sneak peek behind-the-scenes at the inner workings of a zoo. During this program, your group will visit the Zoo's commissary where the animals' diets are made, tour the world-class manatee hospital, and have an up-close animal interaction.

After your tour, pick up your box lunch and then tour the zoo at your leisure.

E. Crystal Springs Preserve

Price: \$15.00

Time: 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Lunch Included

Meet with an experienced educator at Crystal Springs Preserve, learn about how this amazing preserve came to be and get in the river for a biodiversity survey, snorkel in the spring and participate in a survival program. Participants should wear closed toed shoes that can get muddy and wet and snorkel gear, bathing suit, and change of clothes. Enjoy your lunch by the spring!