

Engaging diverse youth in Ocean Science



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NATIONAL
MUSEUM *of*
**NATURAL
HISTORY**



THE SMITHSONIAN

How I have engaged youth

- *Squid dissection with Nemo program*
- *Battle of the species*
- *Expert Is In*
- *Gear Up program in Louisiana*

Strategies to raise awareness of ocean issues

- First, attract with interesting objects, visuals or exhibits
- Start off connecting with peoples values (why this matters and what's at stake)
- Question based conversations
- Make it relevant to them
- Find ways to increase family/group interaction
- Use stories
- Focus on solutions

Squid dissection



Squid dissection



Battle of the Species



Sant Ocean Hall

Main
message:
The ocean is a
global system
essential to
ALL LIFE,
including yours



Battle of the species

Self-guided Experience - Sant Ocean Hall

A Battle of Species - Student Guide

Who will survive the unexpected?

The ocean covers 71% of our planet and makes up 99% of Earth's living space. The ocean is made up of many ecosystems, from the shoreline to the dark deep. Creatures living in these different spaces have evolved adaptations that help them survive and thrive.

Your Mission: Select a creature, become familiar with its role in the ecosystem, then test its ability to survive encounters.

1 Pick a Creature in one of these areas: Poles, Shorelines, Surface Zone, Twilight Zone, Deep Ocean.

2 Prepare for Battle by using information from the surrounding exhibits.



3 Get a Battle Partner(s) from your teacher/chaperone.

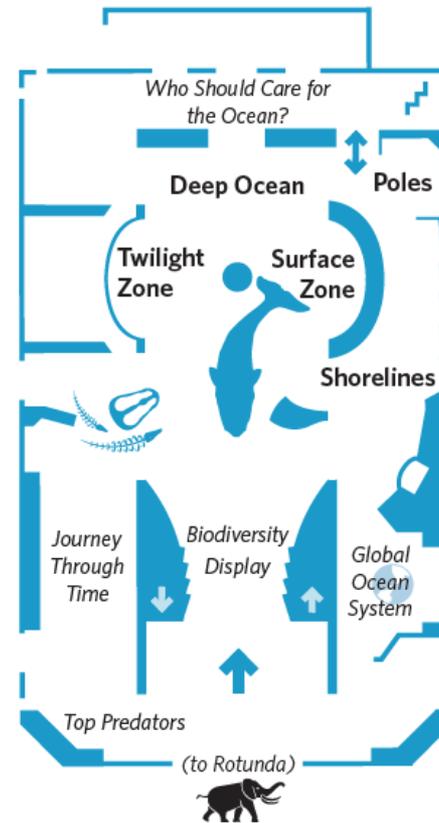
4 Battle it Out by discussing *Battle Cards* and filling in your power points.



5 Meet up with your whole group and find out how everyone did!

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Battle of the species

Creature Profile

- 1 Pick a Creature** in one of these areas: Poles, Shorelines, Surface Zone, Twilight Zone, Deep Ocean.

Your creature's **common name** _____
scientific (Latin) name _____

- 2 Prepare for Battle** by using information from the surrounding exhibits.

Draw your creature and label its features here:

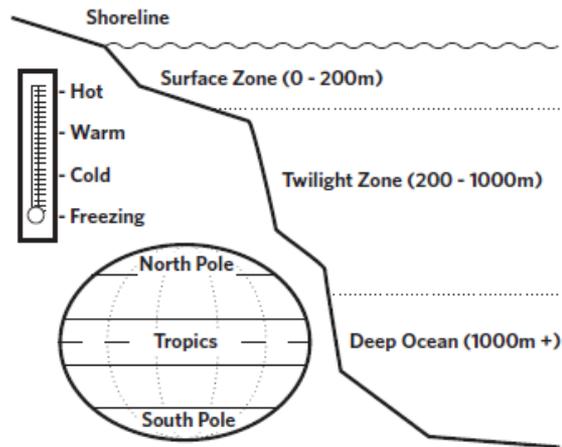
What are special powers (adaptations) that your creature has to...*

get energy?	
move?	
reproduce?	
grow (develop, complete its lifecycle)?	
sense and respond to its environment?	

* Some information for your creature may not be in the exhibits. What do you already know that can help you make an educated guess?

Creature Environment

Circle the environmental (abiotic) factors that best describe where your creature lives:



- 3 Get a Battle Partner(s)** from your teacher/chaperone.

- 4 Battle it Out** by discussing *Battle Cards* and filling in your power points:



- 5 Meet up** with your whole group and find out how everyone did!

Battle of the species

BATTLE CARD

Creature Environment

Over millions of years, tectonic activity causes the ocean depth to be 900 meters in the area where your organisms live. Which creature is best adapted to survive?

>>Battle it out! - Discuss and Decide<<

2 power points to the winner



BATTLE CARD

Human Impact

A pirate fishing boat moves into the area and starts overfishing the region. They send nets down 20-50 meters. Which creature will be able to escape the nets?

>>Battle it out! - Discuss and Decide<<

2 power points to the winner



Expert Is In



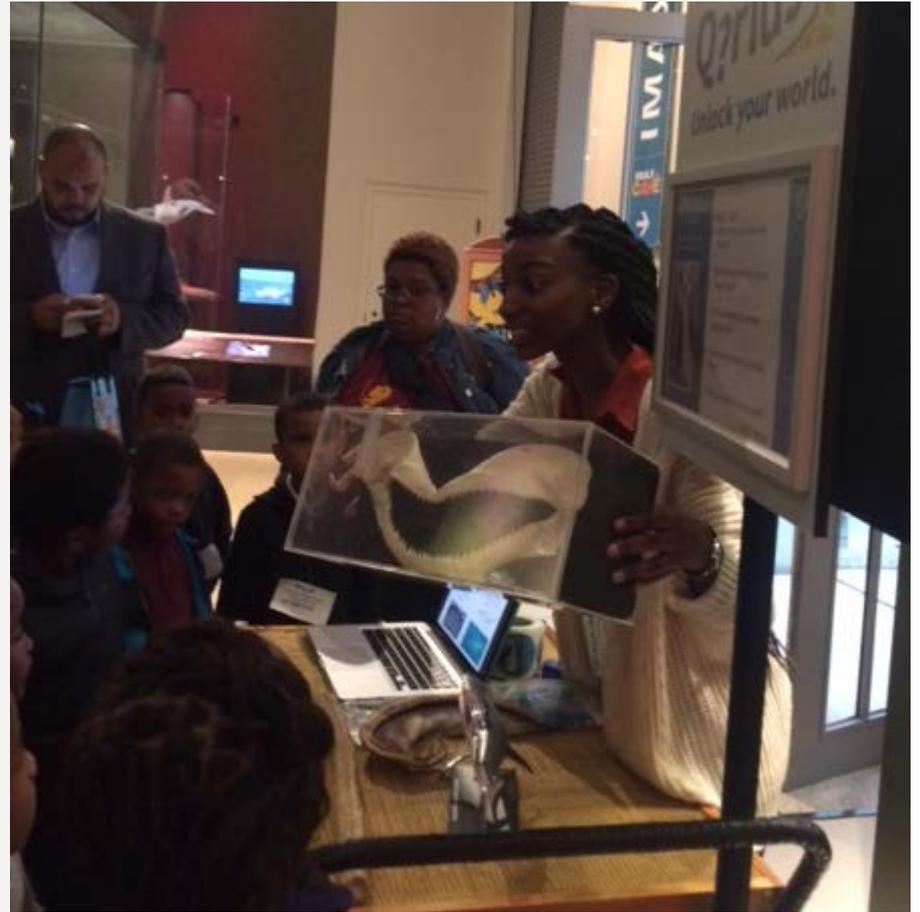
Expert Is In



Expert Is In



Expert Is In



Gear Up Program



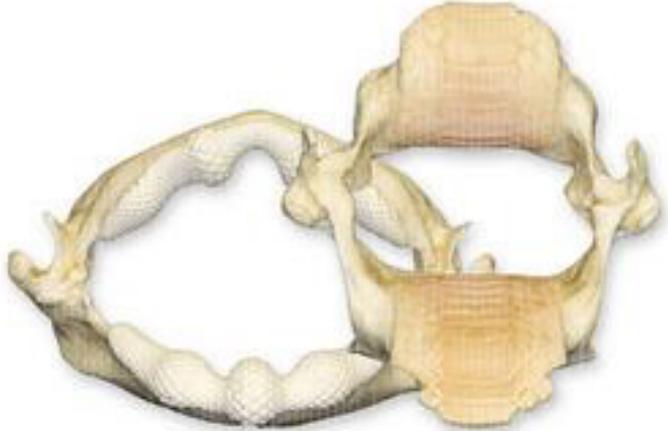
Gear Up



Gear Up



Shark Activity



Questions?



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