



FOSS WATERWAY SEAPORT INTERNSHIP

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TOUCH TANKS

TOUCH TANKS OFFER AN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY TO INTERACT WITH NATURE IN A WAY THAT BOTH EDUCATES AN ENTERTAINS. MANY NORTHWEST FACILITIES UTILIZE TOUCH TANKS AS A EDUCATIONAL TOOL IN TEACHING K-12 STUDENTS ABOUT VARIOUS MARINE LIFE.

HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S MAST CENTER AND OREGON STATE'S HATFIELD MARINE SCIENCE CENTER BOTH UTILIZE TOUCH TANKS AS PART OF THEIR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.



HCC MAST TOUCH TANK WITH PUGET SOUND SUN STARS.

Photo: HCC MAST 2011

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

IN RESEARCH DONE BY VARIOUS GROUPS , STUDENTS LEARN VIA MANY DIFFERENT LEARNING STYLES. WHEN EDUCATION IS COUPLED WITH REAL-TIME INTERACTION WITH DATA, STUDENTS GAIN A SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND EXPERIENCE RESULTS OF LONG TERM PERMANENT KNOWLEDGE.

THIS TYPE OF TEACHING HAS SHOWN AN OUTCOME OF STUDENT'S LEARNING NEW OR ADDING TO EXISTING KNOWLEDGE TO RETAIN A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE SUBJECT PRESENTED. STUDENT TEST SCORES ROSE WITH THE INCORPORATION OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN 80% OF THE STUDIES COMPLETED.

ABSTRACT

CURRENTLY THE FOSS WATERWAY SEAPORT (FWS) IS WORKING TO CREATE A LOCAL WATER-BASED EDUCATION PLAN FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS INVOLVING AN INTERTIDAL TOUCH TANK. FWS INTENDS TO INCREASE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE SURROUNDING POLLUTION AND HABITAT THROUGH THE USE OF THE TANK. UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF JAN ADAMS, I WILL BE CREATING AN EDUCATION PLAN FOR THE TANK. OUTREACH MATERIALS RELATED TO TOUCH TANK SPECIES WITH INFORMATION ON HABITAT PREFERENCE AND POLLUTION TOLERANCE LEVELS GARNERED THROUGH THE LITERATURE WILL BE CREATED. THROUGH EDUCATION OF STUDENTS AT FWS WE EXPECT THAT KNOWLEDGE WILL BE SPREAD VIA THE STUDENTS TO THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.



Photo: Unknown Photographer 2008

COMMENCEMENT BAY, WA VIEWED OVER FOSS WATERWAY SEAPORT. SHOWS TACOMA'S MARINE HABITAT NEAR IT'S BUSY INDUSTRIAL PORT

EDUCATIONAL PLAN

UTILIZING THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING, AN EDUCATIONAL PLAN REGARDING MARINE ECOLOGY AND INHABITANTS WILL BE PRODUCED TO EDUCATE STUDENTS IN A WAY THAT WILL BOTH ENTERTAIN AND TEACH AT THE SAME TIME. THE INTENDED OUTCOME OF THIS LESSON PLAN WILL BE FOR STUDENTS TO GAIN PERMANENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE INTENDED CURRICULUM AND TO ENGAGE THEM IN ACTIVITIES THAT CAN EXTEND BEYOND THE CLASSROOM SETTING. THIS EXTENSION CAN HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY VIA INVOLVEMENT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND THOSE WHO EXPERIENCED THE EDUCATIONAL PLATFORM.

INFORMATION CARDS

MARINE TOUCH TANK SPECIES INFORMATION CARDS CAN INFORM THE STUDENTS ABOUT VARIOUS INFORMATION. SOME OF THE INFORMATION THAT CAN BE RELATED IS:

- SPECIES HABITAT REQUIREMENTS
- HABITAT EVOLUTION
- POLLUTION TOLERANCE AND RESPONSE
- SPECIES CHARACTERISTICS
- HABITAT RANGE
- AND A VARIETY OF OTHER INFORMATION



Photo: John Aldrich 2011

SIMILAR INFO BY PNW BEACHCOMBER OF TIDE POOL INHABITANTS

REFERENCES

Hatfield Marine Science Center: <http://hmsc.oregonstate.edu/visitor/>
 Highline Community College's MAST Center: <https://highline.highline.edu/visit.php>
 Foss Waterway Seaport: <http://www.fosswaterwayseaport.org/>
 Seattle Aquarium: <http://www.seattleaquarium.org/>

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