

# The Marine Education Experience in Devon

## Explore the Hidden World

The marine world is a place that many of us know very little about. It is a mystical place, full of amazing creatures, some as tiny as a grain of sand, and some as huge as an aeroplane! Devon is blessed with some of the best marine wildlife and landscapes in the UK, providing a gateway to some of the most inspiring experiences.

This leaflet has been designed to enrich your interaction with the marine environment, helping you access the places that others have discovered and sharing the secrets of hidden worlds. Whatever location you find yourself in, whether a wide sandy beach, a sheltered muddy estuary, or a craggy rocky shore, there is always plenty to explore. The organisations listed within offer experienced staff to guide you, leaving you with memorable experiences that can last a lifetime.

**Did you Know...**  
Just one cubic metre of estuary mud contains the same calorific value as 14 Mars bars!

### Estuary

An estuary is a giant mixing bowl of freshwater from rivers and streams and saltwater from the sea. The high levels of nutrients this brings provides a banquet to a vast assortment of marine life, making the estuary as rich in biodiversity as a rainforest. This rich food source also attracts birds to estuaries each year, often in their thousands.



#### Estuary ID Guide

- |                 |           |              |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1 Sandwich Tern | 4 Egret   | 7 Shore crab |
| 2 Cormorant     | 5 Plaice  | 8 Cockle     |
| 3 Oystercatcher | 6 Lugworm | 9 Mussels    |

### Marine Education And The Curriculum

Children and adults alike, of all levels of ability, can experience the marine environment through the array of marine educators in Devon. Schools are also encouraged to take advantage of the fantastic learning resource that we are so privileged to have in our County. Curriculum-linked activities and the development of core thinking and learning skills are all typical characteristics of a day by the seashore with marine educators in Devon. These local resources provide fantastic opportunities to capture children's imaginations, to learn about the importance of sustainability whilst promoting learning outside the classroom and delivering physical activity.

**Did you Know...**  
Cushion starfish begin life as a male, then at the age of 4 become female!

### Rocky Shore

Beneath the waves, a landscape of rocks is hidden from human eyes. As the tide retreats, the rocky shore is uncovered, speckled with rock pools and crevices which provide creatures with shelter from the sun and predators. Each little rock pool acts as a natural aquarium, capturing the essence of the marine environment and providing us access to the diversity of creatures that inhabit the rocky shore.



### The Seashore Code

- Ouch!**  
Handle creatures carefully
- I'm Tangled!**  
Use a bucket and your hands to catch rockpool creatures rather than a net, to avoid damaging them
- Where Am I?**  
Carefully replace creatures, rocks and seaweed where you found them
- Don't make me homeless**  
Take photos, not shells
- That's Not Ours!**  
Take your rubbish home – litter is a killer
- Hey! I'm down here**  
Be careful not to stand on creatures
- Agh!**  
Keep your dog away from other creatures and birds
- Be Careful!**  
Rocks can be slippery, cliffs can be high and tides change quickly

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"Tell me and I'll forget;  
Show me and I may remember;  
Involve me and I'll understand."



# Marine Education Providers in Devon

The marine educators of Devon are on hand to provide you with thought-provoking experiences which cater for the specific requirements of your group. This map is designed to guide you to marine education providers in your area, allowing you to explore habitats and wildlife in a safe and friendly environment.

## North Devon

### ① Lundy Island:

Wardens offer walks, talks and snorkelling safaris to help visitors enjoy the wildlife of the Island. Contact: 01271 863636 info@lundyisland.co.uk www.lundyisland.co.uk

### ② Ilfracombe Aquarium:

Experience the fascinating journey from an Exmoor stream to the Atlantic Ocean. Contact: 01271 864533 info@ilfracombeaquarium.co.uk www.ilfracombeaquarium.co.uk

## South Devon

### ⑦ Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum:

Provides information on marine education experiences for schools and other user groups with the rich and diverse wildlife of the estuary. Contact: Kaja Curry: 01752 304339 kaja.curry@plymouth.gov.uk www.plymouth.gov.uk/tecf

### ⑧ National Marine Aquarium:

Offers an innovative, in house learning programme to schools and other user groups, using live and interactive exhibits. Contact: Paul Cox: 01752 275204 paul.cox@national-aquarium.co.uk www.national-aquarium.co.uk

### ⑨ Mount Batten Centre:

Water sports and outdoor adventure activities that are accessible to all members of the community. Contact: Fiona Nichols: 01752 404567 enquiries@mount-batten-centre.com www.mount-batten-centre.com

### ⑩ Wembury Marine Centre:

Experienced in all manner of shore-based education and interpretation to cater for all curriculum stages and user groups. Contact: Cat Ridout: 01752 862538 info@wemburymarinecentre.org www.wemburymarinecentre.org

### ⑪ Learn to Sea:

A qualified provider of marine education for schools and all user groups, offering curriculum led workshops both in and out of the classroom, rockpooling and beach activities. Contact: Maya Plass: 07811 349966 info@learntosea.co.uk www.learntosea.co.uk

### ③ Coastwise North Devon:

Voluntary group providing access to an information network of marine educators and specialists. Contact: Anne Brown: anne.brown46@yahoo.com www.coastwisenorthdevon.org.uk

### ④ Appledore Arts:

Work with local communities and schools to run marine related projects such as Sea 4 Life, which uses a cross curricula approach for an arts and science programme. Contact: Fiona Fraser-Smith: 07900 212747 info@appledorearts.org www.appledorearts.org

### ⑤ North Devon's Biosphere Reserve:

Provide education services for a variety of different user groups. Contact: Matt Edworthy: 01237 423655 matt.edworthy@devon.gov.uk www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk

### ⑥ North Devon Coast AONB:

Providing educational and awareness-raising events and field-based studies. Contact: Linda Blanchard: 01237 423655 linda.blanchard@devon.gov.uk www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk

### ⑮ Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust:

A wide range of activities for all ages from rockpooling and plankton discovery to fossils and coastal geography. From a 2hr visit to a week long residential. Contact: Alex Scholefield: 01803 528841 seashore@countryside-trust.org.uk www.countryside-trust.org.uk

### ⑯ Living Coasts:

Explore global coastal habitats and wildlife with a diverse range of education packages with curriculum links, or a fun day out – boat trips and local sea shore explores available. Contact: Clare Rugg: 01803 202470 info@livingcoasts.org.uk www.livingcoasts.org.uk

### ⑰ Teign Estuary Partnership:

Offers guided walks and education for keys stages 1-3. Contact: Graeme Smith: 01626 215748 gsmith@teignbridge.gov.uk www.teignbridge.gov.uk

### ⑱ Dawlish Warren National Nature Reserve:

The team of wardens and volunteers deliver coastal education to a range of different user groups. Contact: Phil Chambers: 01626 863980 phil.chambers@teignbridge.gov.uk www.teignbridge.gov.uk

### ⑲ Exe Estuary Management Partnership:

The Estuary Officer is available to deliver field-based learning, presentations and hands-on "experiences" around the area. Contact: Jenny Lockett: 01392 382236 exeestua@devon.gov.uk www.exe-estuary.org

### ⑳ East Devon District Council:

The East Devon Education Ranger provides a variety of different education services, from hands-on field trips to presentations and in-school visits across the curriculum. Contact: James Chubb: 01395 516551 jchubb@eastdevon.gov.uk www.eastdevon.gov.uk

### ㉑ Jurassic Coast:

Opportunities for cross curricular learning both inside and out of the classroom, with a range of resources to help deliver exciting and thought-provoking lessons. Contact: Anjana Ford: 01305 224401 a.k.ford@dorsetcc.gov.uk www.jurassiccoast.com

## Devon wide providers

### Devon Wildlife Trust:

A variety of training opportunities and resources for teachers concerning all aspects of wildlife conservation in Devon, with events, activities and materials accessible through wildlife watch. Contact: 01392 279244 contactus@devonwildlifetrust.org www.devonwildlifetrust.org

### Marine Biological Association of the UK (MBA):

Offers educational opportunities through a volunteer program, training courses and various activities for school groups and the public. Contact: Guy Baker: 01752 633352 guba@MBA.ac.uk www.mba.ac.uk

### Marine Life Information Network (MarLIN):

Offer events and activities to help the public enjoy our marine life, with free online resources to support curriculum-linked learning and marine life recording. Contact: 01752 633336 www.marlin.ac.uk

### The Shore Thing:

Working with schools and volunteer recorders to collect information on the marine life of rocky shores around Britain, to help measure change in the future. Contact: Fiona Crouch: 01752 633336 fic@mba.ac.uk www.marlin.ac.uk

### Shark Trust:

Offering a variety of activities and resources relating to sharks, skates and rays to use in the indoor and outdoor classroom by school teachers or other educators. Contact: John Richardson: 01752 672020 john@sharktrust.org www.sharktrust.org

### Marine Conservation Society Plymouth Local Group:

A charity dedicated to caring for our seas, shores and wildlife, offering various events and courses for the public to get involved with. Contact: 01989 566017 mcsplymouthlocalgroup@hotmail.com www.mcsplymouthlocalgroup.co.uk

### BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers):

Working to engage people of all backgrounds in their natural environment through practical work and volunteering, offering beach cleans, rock-pool walks and coastal projects. Contact: James Roberts: 01752 301416 j.roberts@btcv.org.uk www.btcv.org.uk

### Seasearch Devon:

A project for recreational divers who want to do their bit for the marine environment by collecting information about the marine life that only divers see. Contact: Sally Sharrock: 01752 862378 sally.sharrock@btopenworld.com www.seasearchdevon.co.uk

### Devon Museums:

From shipwright's tools to 'mud shoes', this website offers information on a variety of maritime museums, including a Victorian Schoolroom experience! Contact: www.devonmuseums.net

### University of Plymouth:

Offers a variety of courses relating to the marine area. Contact: 01752 585858 prospectus@plymouth.ac.uk www.plymouth.ac.uk

### CoastNet:

Provide informal education, activities and training in science, media and arts using the coast and sea as an inspiration for learning. Contact: Leo Eddolls: 01752 426164 leo.eddolls@coastnet.org.uk www.coastnet.org.uk

THE CROWN ESTATE

Devon maritime forum

For more information on Marine Education, visit:

Devon Maritime Forum

www.devonmaritimeforum.org.uk

c/o Devon County Council - Lucombe House -

County Hall - Topsham Road - Exeter - EX2 4QW

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