NOAA’s Voices of the Bay Website: Educating Students and Teachers on Fisheries

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Outline

1. Fisheries Education – *Voices of the Bay*
2. *Voices of the Bay Website*

Why Fisheries in the Classroom

- High interest by teachers for fisheries education
- Little *place-based* fisheries education in current curriculum
- Those that live on our coast don’t even know what is fished in their backyard ocean

Needs Assessment
Voices of the Bay

Mission: “To provide a place-based education program where local fisheries, fishing communities, and their rich maritime history and culture are a focal point for students to learn about the marine environment as well as the ecological and human dimensions of marine resource use and its management.”

Program goals:

1. Preserve and acknowledge local fisheries, both past and present.
2. Educate teachers and students on how to protect, restore, and manage the use of coastal and ocean resources through ecosystem-based approaches to management.
3. Implement place-based learning and promote environmental and ocean literacy.

Place-Based Learning

• Learning that is rooted in the unique history, environment, culture and economy of a particular place.

• Learning that incorporates local issues and involves community members as partners in student learning.

Field Trips

Fishermen in the Classroom
Students take part in a simulated squid fishery taking on various roles in the fishing community. They learn quickly the challenges involved in maintaining a balance that sustains both the natural squid population and the economic well-being of those associated with the fishery that rely on this common resource.

Through role-playing, teamwork and a little fate, students get an “insider’s” view of what it takes to be an active stakeholder in a commercial fishery and some of the unanticipated gains and losses that can occur.

Students learn what path seafood takes from the ocean to the table.

Processing the catch

Fish sold at market

The fisherman & vessel

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Working individually, and in groups, students research, plan and conduct personal interviews, first with each other and then with actual citizens in the fishing community, to capture the rich stories, traditions, and knowledge that define Monterey’s fishing legacy.

Goals:
• Make curriculum materials easily accessible for teachers.
• Provide basic fish and fishery information in an easily accessible format.
• Provide additional resources for teachers and students interested in fisheries.

Voices of the Bay Website
http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/voicesofthebay/.html

Thank you
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