



Woods Hole Science Aquarium

The Woods Hole Science Aquarium has been in existence since the last 1800s, making it the country's oldest marine aquarium.

Approximately 85,000 people tour the Aquarium every year. Since 2002, over one million visitors have been counted.

Visitor levels peak in the summer when local residents are joined by tourists and the swell of researchers and their students who conduct summer studies in the village. By the fall, the Aquarium has had visitors from every state and around the globe.



The Woods Hole Science Aquarium displays approximately 140 species of marine animals found in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic U.S. waters. The Aquarium is designed for self-guided tours of the main exhibits and a

behind-the-scenes look at Aquarium operations.

The Aquarium features:

- Animals of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic waters
- Exhibit cases with bones, skulls and teeth
- Touch tanks where you may find small fish, crabs, sea stars, whelks, shells and egg casings
- Information about Woods Hole science and history, fishery science, marine mammals, sea turtles and local fish species.

Some of the animals you may see

• Cod, haddock, flounders, striped bass and other animals of importance to commercial and recreational fishermen

• Toadfish, horseshoe crabs, sea urchins, skates and other animals important to biomedical researchers

• Shell, bones and baleen from endangered turtles and whales

• Other animals with unusual colors, odd life histories (sea bass change gender), or striking appearances (toothy wolfish, lovely angelfish, and sea ravens with their bizarre beards)



DRY EXHIBITS

The Aquarium has display cases with bones, skulls and teeth of sharks and other marine creatures. There are also non-living exhibits on

Whale protection, marine turtles, the science of "ageing" fish and the New England Marine Environment

OPEN WORK AREA

The work area behind the touch tank is open to the public. Aquarium visitors can talk to the staff as they prepare food, feed animals, and clean tanks.



INTERNS

The Aquarium offers competitive internship opportunities in the summer months for both high school and college students. Interns have been part of the Aquarium for decades, but in more recent years the annual number has varied but has averaged about 12 summer students per year.



Woods Hole Science Aquarium high school intern at the touch tank

Since 2002, nearly 200 high school and college students have participated in the Aquarium's education programs. Several recent high school summer interns are now college interns in other educational programs.

VISITING INFORMATION

The Aquarium is located at 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA and is open from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Their phone is 508-495-2001.

No strollers. No pets.