

**GK-12 Summer Field Science Program**  
**(for students entering grades 3-4)**  
**Sponsors: UTMSI GK-12, Port Aransas ISD, and the City of Port**  
**Aransas Parks and Recreation**  
**Schedule (updated 14 July 2008)\***  
**10 AM -Noon**

**Master Teacher: Marilyn Cook (PAISD)**

**Program Coordinator: Flora Buerger**

*Thank you to our Co-Sponsors: Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, Port  
Aransas Boatmen and Port Aransas Kiwanis*

**Topic:** Sea Creatures – Adaptations and Ecology

**Teaching Assistants:** Ellen Julstrom, Sarah Wallace

**GK-12 Fellows:** Chris Wilson

**Guest Speakers and Scientists:** Dr. Kiersten Madden, Ellen Julstrom, and Flora Buerger

**Daily Schedule**

Labs each day with emphasis on inquiry, data collection, recording and communicating, (our lessons are written in the 5 E model).

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills to be covered include:

Grade 3 B. 3.1 A, 3.2 B, 3.4 A, 3.8 A C D, 3.9 A, 3.11 A

Grade 4 B. 4.1 A, 4.2 B D E, 4.3 C, 4.4 A, 4.6 A, 4.8 A B, 4.11 B

In-Class Days (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays)

10:00 AM. Introduce focus activity for the topic of the week. Display items on lab table with 3 questions to answer (changed daily).

10:10-10:30 Discuss focus objects and trade book.

10:30-10:45 Outdoor activity for data collection and recording.

10:45-11:00 Record data in lab journal and on class graph.

11:00-11:30 Guest speaker with questions/lab activity.

11:30-11:45 Lab activity

11:45-12:00 Review lab activity and recording, trade book

Field trip days (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

10:00AM - 10:10 AM. Focus activity.

10:15 Depart on local field trip.

11:30 Return and record observations in lab journal; follow up lab activities from field trip.

## **Week 4 Theme: Sea Creatures – Adaptations and Ecology**

Participants will investigate what the seas and oceans look like and what the animals see underwater. Activities will focus on adaptations that enable creatures to survive. The students will utilize *Wildlife in Focus III* books and tour the Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest Exhibit as well as the Animal Rehabilitation Keep (ARK) at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute (UTMSI). In addition, the students will learn about International Polar Year awareness.

### **Other Activities:**

In addition to daily lab activities and work in the field students will be involved in a national research study on career aspirations introduced by *Science and Children*, a peer reviewed journal of the National Science Teachers Association (interview questions below). Students will also be a part of S'COOL, participating with students all over the world as Student Cloud Observers. Students in this project are part of the scientific team as they report cloud data to NASA National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The data that the students collect will help NASA scientists answer the experimental question of what is the effect of Clouds on Earth's Climate? Students will do this observing at a time when CERES (Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System) satellite instrument passes over our area.

*For additional information: Contact Dr. Ken Dunton, Program Director  
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