

**GK-12 Summer Field Science Program  
(for students entering grades 5-8)**

**Sponsors: UTMSI GK-12, Port Aransas ISD, and the City of Port  
Aransas Parks and Recreation**

**Schedule (updated 20 July 2008)\***

**Master Teachers: Cliff Strain (FBISD) and Julie Findley (PAISD)**

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

**Week 4:** 7/21/08 - 7/25/08 1:00-5:00 PM

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

**Teacher:** Julie Findley

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

**GK-12 Fellows:** Brad Gemmell, Chris Wilson

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Scientist</b>
7/21/08	Plankton: “Just a Stage They’re Going Through”	Beach or bay seine (separate vertebrate and invertebrate specimens); plankton sampling (walking or pier lab); identify meroplankton and match with adults found in seine	Discuss major taxonomic groups with characteristics and examples; talk by Brad and Deana on adaptations of plankton; students journal taxonomic groups	Dr. Deana Erdner, Brad Gemmell
7/22/08	Stressing out in Tidepools and Those Sping Guys	Jetty collection of sea urchins, sea squirts, sponges, and corals by teachers; graduate student divers collect sea stars, sand dollars, and mollusks. Tour ARK	Examine specimens from fouling plates hung off pier lab under a microscope; observe echinoderm samples for movement of tube feet/mouth; grouping of animals; dissection of a sea star	Dr. Pablo Munguia
7/24/08	Life Cycles of Bay Organisms	Discuss Adaptations of organisms in the bays and estuaries; tour Fisheries Science and Mariculture Laboratory (FAML)	Dissection of squid and donated fish; fish taxonomy and fish printing	Flora Buerger
7/24/08	Vertebrates Without Bones	<i>Island Queen</i> and jetty collection of fish (trawl and hook/line); visit fish cleaner count and classify carcasses (bony or cartilaginous)	Dissection of fetal sharks and donated adult sharpnoses; bull shark behavior and shark senses	Cliff Strain
7/25/08	Bones, Beauty, and Adaptation	Seine for fish on beach/bay, sift through <i>Sargassum</i> , and obtain cull from a shrimp boat;	Students group all fish by adaptations/body design; phyla ID competition by groups for prizes; dissection of a mackerel or perch	Scientist. Padre Island National Seashore

*For additional information: Contact Flora Buerger, Program Coordinator  
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