



# FLORIDA MARINE ANIMALS FIELD COURSE OVERVIEW

**Course:** Florida Marine Animals  
**Age Group:** 5-8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
**Min. Size:** 10 students  
**Max. Size:** 15 students  
**Contact:** Ms. Christa Jewett  
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**Description:** This field course will provide an overview of various marine species present in South Florida. Emphasis will be placed on species identification as well as methods commonly used by scientists to qualify and quantify marine life in a project area. Students will have a monthly homework assignment to complete prior to each field day. Each field day will include both a lecture focused on discussing the homework material as well as hands-on field activities pertaining to the subject matter.

**Cost:** There is a cost of \$375 per student for this Course with a 20% sibling discount. Expenses associated with the field trips are additional. See detail below.

**Payment:** A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to reserve your child's place in this Course. The balance of the Course payment will be due by September 12, 2016. If finances are an issue for you, please contact Saltwater Studies to discuss an alternative arrangement.

**Cancellation Policy:** If unexpected circumstances require you to cancel your registration, a full refund will be provided for cancellations made until one week prior to the first class. A 50% refund will be provided for cancellations made within one week prior to the first class and for students who drop out within 30 days of the first class. No refunds will be provided for students who drop out after 30 days from the first class.

**Dates:** Third Friday of each month, September 2016 – April 2017 (see detail below)

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM

**Materials:** Students will need their own snorkeling equipment, notebook and writing utensil. All other field equipment, class materials and supplies will be provided by Saltwater Studies.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Lecture & Lesson
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Lunch
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Field Trip

## LESSON SCHEDULE

Please note that this is a tentative schedule based on season and tide schedule. This schedule is subject to change based on current weather conditions.

### Class #1

<b>Date</b>	Friday, September 16, 2016
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Oleta River State Park; 3400 NE 163rd St, North Miami Beach, FL 33160
<b>Topic</b>	Cnidarians (Jellies)
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based overview of Phylum Cnidaria which includes various types of jellies. The field trip will include kayaking in Biscayne Bay searching for various local species of jelly such as comb jellies, moon jellies, Portuguese Man O War and upside-down jellies.
<b>Expenses:</b>	There is a kayak rental fee of \$25 per person.

### Class #2

<b>Date</b>	Friday, October 21, 2016
<b>Location</b>	Bill Baggs State Park; 1200 Crandon Blvd, Key Biscayne, FL 33149
<b>Topic</b>	Sea Fowl (Marine Birds)
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based overview of Sea Fowl (Marine Birds). Field Activities will include a beach walk to identify and quantify local species of marine birds. An optional activity includes touring the Biscayne Bay Lighthouse and Museum.
<b>Expenses:</b>	There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per vehicle. There may be an additional fee for the Lighthouse and Museum Tour.

### Class #3

<b>Date</b>	Friday, November 18, 2016
<b>Location</b>	Loggerhead Park; Loggerhead Park; 14200 U.S. Hwy 1, Juno Beach, FL 33408
<b>Topic</b>	Marine Reptiles
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based overview of Marine Reptiles including iguanas, sea turtles and sea snakes. Field Activities will include a tour of Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center and beach activities where students will learn how to identify sea turtle tracks and perform monitoring activities.
<b>Expenses:</b>	Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center charges an entrance fee of \$5.00 per person.

### Class #4

<b>Date</b>	Friday, December 16, 2016
<b>Location</b>	John U. Lloyd Beach State Park, 6503 N Ocean Dr, Dania Beach, FL 33004
<b>Topic</b>	Mollusks
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based review of mollusks, specifically discussing Class Gastropoda and Class Bivalvia. Field Activities will include sea shell and organism collection and identification.
<b>Expenses:</b>	There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per vehicle.

### Class #5

<b>Date</b>	Friday, January 20, 2017
<b>Location</b>	James A. Rutherford Park; 600 NE 24th St, Boca Raton, FL 33431 & Gumbo Limbo Nature; Center 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton, FL 33432
<b>Topic</b>	Teleosts (Bony Fish)
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based overview of teleosts (bony fish). Field activities will include identifying common species of Florida reef fish at and learning fish count methods.
<b>Expenses:</b>	Gumbo Liimbo Nature Center charges an entrance fee of \$5.00 per person.

### Class #6

<b>Date</b>	Friday, February 17, 2017
<b>Location</b>	Manatee Lagoon; 6000 N Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach, FL 33407
<b>Topic</b>	Marine Mammals
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based overview of Florida marine mammals such as manatees and dolphins. Field activities will include organism identification and quantification at Manatee Lagoon
<b>Expenses:</b>	None.

### Class #7

<b>Date</b>	Friday, March 17, 2017
<b>Location</b>	To Be Determined
<b>Topic</b>	Elasmobranchs (Sharks, Skates and Rays)
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will discuss a biblically-based view of Subclass Elasmobranchii and a discussion on local shark and ray species. Field activities will include a dissection where students will compare anatomical differences between three different species: a bony fish, a sea star and a dogfish shark.
<b>Expenses:</b>	None.

### Class #8

**\*This class will be from 12:00 – 4:00 PM to accommodate the tide schedule\***

<b>Date</b>	Friday, April 21, 2017
<b>Location</b>	Riviera Beach Municipal Marina; 200 E 13th St, Riviera Beach, FL 33404/Peanut Island Park
<b>Topic</b>	Echinoderms
<b>Homework</b>	<b>Homework includes online reading, videos and questions on appropriate topics and must be completed prior to the class. Students must also prepare their notebooks for submission during the last class.</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	The class will offer a biblically-based discussion on Phylum Echinodermata (sea stars, sea urchins, and sand dollars). Field activities will include snorkeling around the waters of Peanut Island searching for local echinoderm species. <i>Each student must bring his or her own snorkel equipment.</i>
<b>Expenses:</b>	The Peanut Island ferry charges a fee of \$10 per person.

## CLASS OVERVIEW

**Homework.** Students will have homework to complete prior to each class. This includes reading online material and taking notes regarding each topic.

**Grading Policy.** If you would like for your child to receive a grade for the Course, he or she must be prepared to submit their homework assignments and their notebook at the end of the year. On the last class, each student will hand in a notebook that includes their homework assignments, handouts and field notes. The notebook will be graded on neatness, organization, completion and detail. The student will earn up to 100 points for their notebook. At the completion of the session, the students will receive their notebooks, a course grade and a certificate of completion for their records.

Parental Permission Slip. Each student will need to provide a completed Parental Permission slip in order to participate in the field course. You may also be asked to execute a Photo Release Form to allow Saltwater Studies to share photographs taken during the Course on social media.

Materials. Students will be provided with scientific field equipment and hand-outs. Students will be required to provide their own 3-ring binder with paper, writing utensil and Bible (NKJV or NIV, preferred) for the class.

Expenses. There are additional expenses associated with each field trip such as park entrance fee, parking or transportation and kayak rental. These expenses are included in the schedule presented above and represent the approximate costs available at the time this document was prepared. Expenses are subject to change based on vendor costs.

Sibling Participation. Siblings who are not registered for the Course may participate in the field trip associated with each field day, if there is space available. However, there will be a cost of \$15 per sibling in order for him or her to join in on the field trip.