

PLUGGED IN

FUN FOR KIDS

A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY AND ART

GET connected connected

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This Month's Theme: Water Quality

Wyland Ocean Challenge

On November 19th, students from Santa Barbara County Schools visited the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum to participate in the "Wyland Ocean Challenge," which is a program that educates students about the importance of clean water. During their visit, students painted a mural with Wyland, the famous ocean muralist, and learned how to be better protectors of the ocean. The mural will be on display

at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, as well as at participating schools. The lessons learned by students at the Maritime Museum are important for all people who want to enjoy the oceans for years to come.

Wyland, renowned marine muralist, with students painting ocean mural at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum.



Photo by Crystal Shelton.

Monitoring and Protecting our Oceans

If you live in Santa Barbara, you've probably spent a lot of time at the beach enjoying the ocean. Perhaps you have even visited the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary or been to the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum to see the new movie *Ocean World*. The sanctuary is a special protected area of the ocean surrounding the Channel Islands and contains many beautiful and fascinating animals and plants. In order to keep the sanctuary and all oceans safe for marine life, we need your help. Someone who takes care of something is called a steward, and we all need to be better stewards of the ocean.



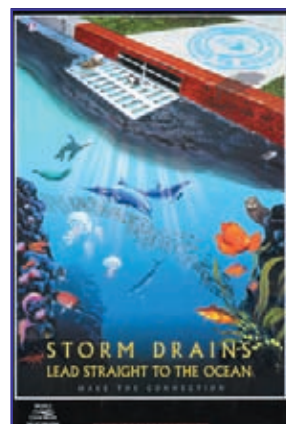
Photo by Robert Schwemmer.

Father and Son Surfing

The Water Cycle

The ocean is a part of the water cycle. The water cycle is the name for the way that the earth constantly reuses water. Water from the ocean "evaporates," or changes into water vapor (gas), and rises up into the air. Once the water vapor gets high enough, it "condenses" and forms clouds. When the clouds become too heavy with water, they "precipitate"—releasing water in the form of rain. Rainwater then runs off the land and back into the ocean, starting the cycle over again. This means that the water of the earth is always recycled.

Water Cycle



City of Los Angeles Stormwater Management Division/Project Clean Water

Ocean Pollution and Other Problems

Every day, trash, chemicals and other wastes from on land find their way into creeks, stormdrains, and other watersheds – all of which eventually lead to the ocean. These pollutants are called runoff wastes, because they "run off" the land and into the water. Pollutants from ships, boats, oil platforms, beach visitors, and other sources also end up in the ocean.

All of these types of wastes contaminate ocean waters, and may harm not only ocean plants and animals, but also people. Rainwater often carries this waste on its journey to the sea, though it is not the only way in which the ocean may be harmed. We need to find ways to stop pollution where it starts.

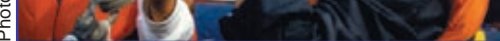


Photo by Ashton Graham.

Students Testing Water Quality

New Environmental Exhibit Coming Soon!

The Santa Barbara Maritime Museum's Barry and Jean Schuyler Environmental Exhibit, opening in March 2004, will discuss many ways in which maritime-related activities (such as shipping, water recreation, coastal building projects, fishing, and much more) affect the Santa Barbara Channel. Also featured will be stories of how local citizens, organizations, and governmental agencies are working to find solutions for environmental problems affecting our ocean resources.

This exciting interactive exhibit features fun, hands-on activities to help kids learn more about maritime environmental issues in our community, and suggests ways in which we can help protect our ocean, watersheds, and marine life.



Northern Elephant Seal

Photo by Robert Schwemmer.

Learn More About Water Quality by Visiting these Websites:

- www.countyofsb.org/project_cleanwater
- www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us
- www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org
- www.sbmm.org
- www.channelislands.noaa.gov/edu/pdf/spring_03.pdf
- www.wylandoceanchallenge.org

Student Responses To The Wyland Ocean Challenge

Students who participated in the Wyland Ocean Challenge at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum had some thoughts to share about the ocean and how we can better protect our water resources and marine life.



KEVIN

Kevin Cyr, a third grader from La Patera Elementary School, was asked "What is one cause of pollution in the ocean?" He responded, "Trash and plastic bags...garbage."

When **Julia Goggin**, a third grader from Summerland Elementary School, was asked "Why are the oceans important to you?" she said, "I like to swim in the oceans and I like the way the water feels in my hair."

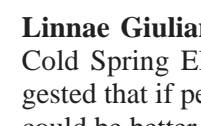


JULIA



AMBER

Amber Nicole, a first grader from La Patera, said "the oceans are the place where fish and dolphins live. They don't have another home, they don't have anywhere else to live."



LINNAE

Linnae Giuliano, a third grader from Cold Spring Elementary School, suggested that if people "don't litter" they could be better stewards of the oceans.

All student photos by Santa Barbara Maritime Museum.

Word Scramble Activity

Unscramble the underlined words to find the answers to these puzzle questions. The solutions are below.

1. A special protected area for marine life is called a UANTCYRAS.
2. Someone who takes care of something is called a AEDWTSR.
3. The YWCTEERALC is the name for the way that the earth constantly reuses water.
4. Pollutants such as trash, chemicals, and other wastes from on land that find their way to the ocean through creeks, stormdrains, and other watersheds are called NFUFOR wastes.
5. EEPCIRPTAT is the word that describes what happens when clouds release water in the form of rain.
6. All forms of pollutants may harm not only ocean plants and animals, but also LOPEEP.
7. The upcoming EEVNRANIOMTL exhibit at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum is a place where people can learn more about protecting the Santa Barbara Channel.
8. One way people can be better stewards of the oceans is if they NLIDTETOTR.

Puzzle Answers: 1. SANCTUARY; 2. STEWARD; 3. WATER CYCLE; 4. RUN OFF; 5. PRECIPITATE; 6. PEOPLE; 7. ENVIRONMENTAL; 8. DON'T LITTER

Page prepared by the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum
Julie McDonald, Director of Education
Angela Scott, Curator and Collections Management
Lisa Wiegel, Education Assistant

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