



Family Fun Activities and Investigations

The following are sites where families can participate in programs or interact with exhibits to learn more about the Chesapeake Bay. Please contact the sites specifically to learn about their current exhibits, calendar of events, and possible fees.

Anita C. Leight Estuary Center

(410-612-1688) <http://www.otterpointcreek.org>

Assateague Island National Seashore

(410-641-1443 ext.232) <http://www.nps.gov/asis/>

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge

(410-228-2677) <http://blackwater.fws.gov>

Chesapeake Bay Gateway

<http://www.baygateways.net/>

Gunpowder Falls State Park

(410-592-2897)

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/gunpowder.html>

Marshy Point Nature Center

(410-887-2817)

<http://www.co.ba.md.us/Agencies/recreation/countyparks/marshypoint/index.html>

Oregon Ridge Nature Center

(410-887-1815)

<http://www.co.ba.md.us/Agencies/recreation/countyparks/oregonridgelodge/index.html>



Career Connections

Take a few minutes to discuss with your child these different career opportunities for people interested in the Chesapeake Bay.

Biologist

A scientist that deals with the origin, history, characteristics, habits, etc. of plants and animals

Botanist

A scientist that deals with plants and plant life

Environmentalist

A person who works to protect the air, water, animals, plants, and natural resources from pollution

Forester

A scientist that plants and takes care of forests

Marine Scientist

A scientist who studies plants and animals that live in the ocean

Naturalist

A scientist who studies and observes plants and animals in their habitat

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A Parent's Informational Guide to:

Saving the Chesapeake Bay



Grade 3



Saving the Chesapeake Bay is a unit of study in which students will investigate the human impact on the living organisms within the Chesapeake Bay. It is designed to be taught in conjunction with a grade-level contest initiative to promote awareness of human impact on the Bay. Throughout this unit, students utilize a variety of scientific and mathematical skills to extend their understanding of ecology. This third grade unit in the BCPS's Essential Curriculum is built upon the indicators of the Maryland State Curriculum that are listed below:

Standard 6.0 Environmental Science

A. NATURAL RESOURCES AND HUMAN NEEDS

1. Recognize and explain how Earth's natural resources from the natural environment are used to meet human needs.
 - a. Describe natural resources as something from the natural environment that is used to meet one's needs.
 - b. Identify water, air, soil, minerals, animals, and plants as basic natural resources.
 - c. Explain that food, fuels, and fibers are produced from basic natural resources.
 - d. Identify ways that humans use Earth's natural resources to meet their needs.
 - e. Explain that some natural resources are limited and need to be used wisely.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

1. Recognize and describe that the activities of individuals or groups of individuals can affect the environment.
2. Identify and describe that individual and group actions, such as turning off lights, conserving water, recycling, picking up litter, or joining an organization can extend the natural resources of the environment.
3. Identify and describe that individual and group action, such as leaving lights on, wasting water, or throwing away recyclables, can limit the natural resources of the environment.



Unit Vocabulary

Encourage your children to use the vocabulary listed below when telling you about what they are learning during this science unit.

basic needs - the four things that all plants and animals need in order to survive. They are food, water, air, and shelter.

brackish - a mix of salt and fresh water

environment - everything around a living thing

estuary - a brackish body of water, partly surrounded by land that is connected to an ocean

habitat - a place in nature where a plant or animal usually lives because its basic needs are met

natural resources - something found in nature that is used by people

non-renewable natural resources - resources that can be used up

organism - a living thing

renewable resources - resources that can be replaced in a human life time

wetlands - an area of low land that is covered by water for most of the year



Books to Read

Take some time to read a few books about the Chesapeake Bay with your child. Books about the Bay can be found in the non-fiction section of your school and public library. To find books in the catalogue, use the search terms: Chesapeake Bay, pollution, Maryland, and/or estuary. Possible books are listed below:

Chadwick the Crab (a series), Priscilla Cummings

Chesapeake Bay Walk, David Owen Bell

Life in an Estuary: The Chesapeake Bay, Sally M. Walker

Sam, The Tale of A Chesapeake Bay Rockfish, Kristina Henry

Osprey Adventure, Jennifer Keats Curtis

Internet Sites



Go to on-line Web site at www.bcps.org/offices/lis. Select "Databases" link to open the Database Portal. Use the following information to log on to BrainPop:

BrainPop

User Name: bcps

Password: brainpop

Bayville: An Interactive Tour of the Chesapeake Bay
http://bayville.thinkport.org/default_flash.aspx