



National Park Service  
 U.S. Department of the Interior  
 Assateague Island National Seashore  
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 Chincoteague, VA 23336  
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 www.nps.gov/asis

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 U.S. Department of the Interior  
 Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge  
 PO Box 62  
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 757-336-6122 (phone) 757-336-5273 (fax)  
 www.fws.gov/notheast/chinco/



## *Assateague Island National Seashore & Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge*

# 2010 Environmental Education Programs

**What:** Expand the boundaries of your classroom to include Assateague Island! Choose from a variety of programs that provide students with opportunities to discover and explore the island’s wildlife and habitats from beach to bay.



**When:** Due to limited staffing we will be offering fewer programs this spring. Please see our insert for suggestions on maximizing your learning experiences on Assateague Island. Programs are offered on a “first-come, first-serve” basis, so schedule early! Reservations should be made at least 2 weeks in advance.

**Where:** Assateague Island National Seashore, Virginia District  
 Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Virginia

**How Many:** To facilitate a quality learning experience, some programs are limited to 15 students. At least 2 chaperones (a 1:5 ratio is ideal) are required on all programs.

**Contact:** Aubrey Hall 757-336-6122 ext. 324

*There is no charge for programs, but donations are gratefully accepted.*

*Your Confirmation Form will serve as your entrance fee waiver.*





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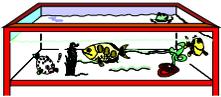
## National Park Service Programs

These programs are offered *Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays in April & May*. Teachers, please stop at the Toms Cove Visitor Center to meet with the rangers presenting the programs to coordinate logistics.

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### Aquarium Talk

Age range: All ages (Targeted for Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)  
Duration: 1 - 1.5 hours

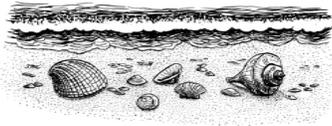


A firsthand introduction to the creatures that live in the waters surrounding Assateague Island. Students will learn about this “fish-eat-fish” world and the fascinating adaptations some creatures have evolved to keep from being someone else’s lunch! This half-hour segment is combined with a short beach activity.

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### Beach Walk

Age Range: All ages  
Duration: 1.5 hours



Assateague is moving! Students find out where and why as they explore the processes of barrier island ecology. Students will also discover the necessary adaptations required to survive in this ever-changing environment.

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### Marine Explorers

Age Range: 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade  
Duration: 2 hours



Using basic sampling and collecting equipment, students explore the island from beach to bay to learn how the habitats weave together to form a barrier island ecosystem. This program is designed for returning groups or groups that are studying barrier island ecosystems. Students will get wet to their knees. Wear shoes and clothing that can get wet.

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### Salt Marsh Adventure

Age Range: All Ages  
Duration: 1.5 hours



Is the salt marsh a wonderland or a wasteland? A menace or a marvel? Students discover the answers for themselves as they explore the intriguing qualities of the salt marsh. Students will be getting their feet wet and muddy.



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# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Programs

These programs are offered *Monday through Friday in April, May & June* and meet at the Herbert H. Bateman Educational & Administrative Center.

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## Habitat Hunting

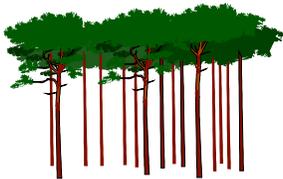


Age range: Kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
Duration: 1.5 hours  
Science SOL: K.1, K.2, K.6, 1.1, 1.5, 1.8, 2.1, 2.5, 3.1, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.9, 3.10  
In addition, the forestry version covers SOL K.8, 1.4, 2.8

This lively, hands-on program teaches students what animals and plants need to live and how they find what they need on a national wildlife refuge. Choose between the aquatic or forestry version.

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## Forest Ecology



Age range: 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Duration: 1.5 hours  
Science SOL: 4.4, 4.5, 4.8, 5.6, 5.7, LS.6, LS.7(b,c,d), LS.9

Students explore a forest of Assateague Island and learn what makes it tick! From plants to animals, from soil to water, and everything in between, the forest is a great place to learn about the interdependency of life and to experience the tranquility of nature.

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## Nature and Me



Age range: 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Duration: 1.5 - 2 hours  
Science SOL: 4.1, 4.5, 4.8, 5.1, 5.5, 6.1, 6.9, LS.4, LS.5, LS.7, LS.9, LS.12

Through a scientific study of birds and their habitats, students discover how humans are impacting the environment both positively and negatively.

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## Critters and Gadgets



Age range: 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Duration: 2 hours  
Science SOL: 6.9, LS.12, PS.8

Biologists use a number of technological tools to protect and conserve wildlife populations; from banding animals to tracking them with radio or satellite telemetry. Through active participation, students become biologists for a day while using this equipment.

# Get Prepared!

Enhance your class trip to Assateague Island through a pre-visit activity. Choose an activity that will familiarize the students with your chosen program topic and Assateague Island. Here are a few tips to help you develop and conduct an activity:



- For general information visit websites:  
 Assateague Island National Seashore: <http://www.nps.gov/asis>  
 Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/chinco/>
- Prepared pre- and post-visit activities are available on our websites for some of the programs. Refuge and Park Service brochures and an “Environmental Education at CNWR” DVD are also available by request.
- Utilize resources such as Project Wild and Project Wild - Aquatic:

Pre-Visit Activity	Grade Level	Education Program
Aqua Words	K - 8	Aquarium Talk Beach Walk Salt Marsh Adventure
Checks and Balances	6 - 12	Nature and Me Critters and Gadgets
Everybody Needs a Home	K - 3	Beach Walk Habitat Hunting Salt Marsh Adventure
Graphananimal	2 - 6	Forest Ecology Habitat Hunting
Learning To Look, Looking To See	K - 8	All Programs
Marsh Munchers	3 - 6	Marine Explorers Salt Marsh Adventure
Shrinking Habitat	4 - 7	Beach Walk Forest Ecology Marine Explorers Salt Marsh Adventure Nature and Me Critters and Gadgets
Water We Eating	K - 12	Aquarium Talk Beach Walk Marine Explorers Salt Marsh Adventure

Don't forget to prepare the students for the outdoors.

**Proper footwear and clothes are a must!** Several layers of clothing and outerwear will keep students comfortable as temperatures on Assateague Island usually average 10 degrees cooler than on the mainland. If rain is forecast, please bring appropriate rain gear. Footwear that can get wet and muddy is needed for several of the offered programs. Supplying parents and students with this information will help ensure a successful learning opportunity.

