

CBNERR Classroom Visit Topics

The following are classroom visit topics that you can select from. Please contact Matthew Thayer, Education Specialist at CBNERR, via email at mlthayer@vims.edu.

Adaptations of Fishes Lesson: Students will examine different species of fish found in the Chesapeake Bay and determine the specific adaptations the fishes have. Students will relate the adaptations to the fishes' life histories, habitats, and niches.

Water Quality Lesson: Students test water samples collected from the Chesapeake Bay for a variety of factors. They record their data and use it to figure out where each sample was taken from along the estuarine salinity gradient.

Watershed Lesson: Students map the Chesapeake Bay watershed, identify key features of the watershed, and identify their location within the watershed. This lesson helps students understand the concept of a watershed.

Biodiversity Lesson: This lesson addresses the importance of species and habitat diversity in the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. It includes three smaller lessons that can be combined into one lesson or given individually. The lessons include: 1) investigating freshwater habitats by identifying macroinvertebrates and using them to answer questions about water quality; 2) investigating the functions of wetlands by performing several experiments; and 3) investigating the food chain in open water habitats of the Bay by examining species that live in open water habitats.

Build-a-Buoy: Students will test water samples collected from the Chesapeake Bay for a variety of factors. They will record their data and use it to figure out where each sample was taken from along the estuarine salinity gradient. Students will then learn about the use of buoys and then design test their own.

Human Impacts on the Chesapeake Bay: This box includes materials necessary for several lessons: Effect of Climate Change on Fishes, It's in your hands, Paper Watershed, and Effects of Ocean Acidification. Each lesson addresses a different impact that humans have on the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

Chesapeake Bay Overview Lecture: This PowerPoint includes a lecture overviewing the Chesapeake Bay with different species, water quality, and issues impacting the bay.

Careers in Marine Science Lecture: This PowerPoint includes a lecture overviewing careers that are possible in marine science like a biologist, geologist, environmental scientist, and many more!