



Primary and Early Childhood Programmes at the New Zealand Marine Studies Centre 2026

In 2026, the NZ Marine Studies Centre offers onsite, offsite and online programmes to support Early-Childhood and Primary education. All of our programmes are aligned with the NZ Curriculum and allow students access to local marine coastlines, university laboratories, scientific equipment and marine creatures.

For further details phone 03 479 5826, email hannah.drury@otago.ac.nz or see our website: www.marine.ac.nz

Ecosystems and Foodwebs

Our Mighty Moana - ECE and Year 0-2

Explore the marine environment through stories, puppets, crafts, games and hands-on activities. Find out what makes the moana and all the creatures that live in it so special.

1.5 hrs. \$6.75 per student (GST excl.)

Supper in the Sea - Year 3-8

Who eats who in the ocean? Discover how it's all connected, how local sea creatures are adapted for survival and explore issues regarding sustainability and human impacts on the oceans.

2 hrs. \$9 per student (GST excl.)

Adaptations and Habitats

Seashore Investigation and Marine Meter² - Year 1-8

At the NZMSC or on your local shore

Uncover the secrets on the seashore by peeking under rocks and in tide pools. Investigate and understand why marine animals live where they do. For Year 5-8, use shore survey techniques and equipment.

2 hrs. Tide dependent. \$9 per student (GST excl.)

The Secret Life of Sharks - Year 6-8

Find out what species of shark are found in the local areas of the Otago Harbour and off the coast and how they are different from each other. Discover how scientists gather data about sharks and what this information tells us. Explore the external and internal anatomy of a shark and examine the unique features and adaptations it has to survive.

3 hrs. \$15.50 per student (GST excl.)

Pāpaka Power - Year 4-8

Investigate the incredible world of pāpaka (crabs)! Compare a range of local species and learn about their behavioural and structural adaptations to survive in different habitats.

2 hrs. \$9 per student (GST excl.)

Conservation and Sustainability

Ocean Caretakers - Year 3-8

Why are we concerned about plastics? How does it affect our moana? Investigate the local seashore through a Litter Intelligence survey and get up and close to the creatures that live along the coastline. Learn what you can do to be tiaki (guardians) of the coastlines.

2 hrs. Tide dependent. \$9 per student (GST excl.)

Aotearoa Ocean Histories - Year 5-8

An introduction to important kaimoana and taoka marine species in Otago. Go on a Peninsula Headland walk to learn about how kaimoana was collected with different native plants and throughout different seasons, and get up close to some local marine species.

2 hrs. \$9 per students (GST excl.)

NZVR - Exploring our Marine Environment - Year 6-8

In your classroom

Experience Aotearoa / NZ's marine environment through Virtual Reality videos (Blake NZ-VR, NZ Geographic). Compare northern and southern environments, pristine and degraded ecosystems. Investigate the causes of environmental damage and how we can be tiaki (guardians) for our moana.

Class set of 35 headsets. 1-2 sessions \$200 (GST excl.), 3-4 sessions \$320 (GST excl.)

Online and New Zealand Wide

Online Live from the Shore – Year 1 - 6

Join a marine scientist on an exploration of the local coastline while it is live-streamed directly to your classroom. Ask questions and learn great stories to tell your own whānau next time you go to the seashore.

\$60 (GST excl.) per hour, tide dependent.

Online Live from the Fish Tank – Year 1-6

Join a marine scientist and encounter the weird and wonderful adaptations found in the touch tanks. Live-streamed directly to your classroom, students will be encouraged to play along and compare their own adaptations to their distant swimming relatives.

\$60 (GST excl.) per hour.

Customisable

Our programmes can be customised to fit your class. Most of our programmes can be adapted to fit different age groups and learning needs. Multiple programmes can be combined to make a full day field trip. We can also create programmes with a specific focus, such as Plankton, Cephalopods (Squid and Octopus), Deep Sea Creatures, Seaweed, Experimental Science, how marine scientists study the ocean, classification of animals, Science Extension, etc. Just get in touch with our educators to find out what we can do for you and your class.

Please note: the prices quoted are for NZ schools only and do not include GST. We are happy to adapt these programmes for other interested groups.



NEW ZEALAND
MARINE STUDIES CENTRE
University of Otago

Primary and ECE Programmes



Marine Discoveries for Schools

Join scientists and wildlife at the NZ Marine Studies Centre

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