



GEORGIA AQUARIUM

at Pemberton Place

THE LEARNING LOOP

Where Education, Conservation and Recreation Converge to Make a Splash!

The educational experience at the Georgia Aquarium is an innovative approach to the traditional field trip. In addition to exploring the main floor of the Aquarium, The Learning Loop gives students their own level of the Georgia Aquarium, and the Georgia Aquarium is the only aquarium in the U.S. to dedicate this type of space solely to the educational benefit of school-aged students and teachers. As part of the education program, students are engaged by animal encounters, interactive activities and research applicable to real-world situations.

“I am particularly proud of the educational aspect of the Georgia Aquarium,” Aquarium benefactor Bernie Marcus said. “It’s unlike anything anyone has ever done before. Children and teachers alike are excited and inspired by what they see and do here.”

On the Learning Loop, students become engaged through interactive exhibits that expand their understanding of the importance of aquatic ecosystems. Students not only view the animals in their exhibits, but discover the world behind the scenes. Sponsored by Turner Broadcasting and enhanced by the generosity of other donors, all program costs have been kept to \$11 per child. The Georgia Aquarium, through the generous contributions of local businesses, foundations, corporations and individuals, also offers a sponsored admission program that allows for diverse student audiences, regardless of their economic status, have an opportunity to participate in these educational experiences. In the first two years, more than 100,000 students experienced the Learning Loop and educational programs at the Aquarium.

The Georgia Aquarium also offers teachers the opportunity to immerse themselves in learning and gain invaluable experience through hands-on experiences. Professional development opportunities are designed for teachers to experience first-hand some of the ecosystems found across the world in Georgia’s backyard. Teacher workshops are held throughout the year.

While school is out for the summer, the Georgia Aquarium offers kids the opportunity to continue the fun. Camp H₂O is a week-long summer day camp for children between 5-14 years old. The

program provides campers with a unique experience at the Georgia Aquarium that involves animal encounters, behind-the-scenes tours, opportunities to meet the husbandry team and much more. Camp H₂O is a great opportunity for kids to explore the aquatic realm at the world's largest aquarium.

Education lessons are aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards at each grade level, and meet National Education Standards to promote a student's academic success and satisfy their curiosity about the aquatic realm. State-of-the-art learning labs offer students real-life learning using hands-on, inquiry-based investigations. An education advisory committee consisting of thirty individuals, who represent various aspects of the educational community including representatives of the State Board of Education, teachers, administrators, federal agencies and corporations, worked with Aquarium leadership on the programming.

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About the Georgia Aquarium

The Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, Georgia, is the world's largest with more than eight million gallons of water and the largest collection of aquatic animals. The mission of the Georgia Aquarium is to be an entertaining, educational and scientific institution featuring exhibits and programs of the highest standards; offering engaging and exciting guest experiences promoting the conservation of aquatic biodiversity throughout the world. The Georgia Aquarium is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums. For additional information, visit www.georgiaaquarium.org.