

December 2015

RE: New Year WEX Placement

The Vancouver Aquarium is currently recruiting **4 students** for our **Bilingual Marine Educator (Kindergarten-Grade 3) WEX Placement**.

As a Work Experience Student, you will be working within a team of staff, volunteers, and other students to teach young students (ages 4-9), in both **English and French**, about marine life using live animal displays, touchpools, and artifacts at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Title: **Bilingual Marine Educator, Kindergarten-Grade 3**

Department: Education

Key Dates: **Mandatory Group Interview: Sunday December 20th**
Time to be confirmed, and by invitation only.

The Vancouver Aquarium will let students know if they have been selected for an interview by December 18th

Mandatory Training: all students must attend both days

1. **Core Training:** Sunday January 10th from 10-4
2. **Specialist Training:** Sunday January 17th

Placement Dates: Students are required to volunteer every:

Tuesday 9:00AM-2:00PM

From January 25th 2016 to March 14th 2016.

Shifts: Students will volunteer every Tuesday from January 25th to March 14th.

Description of Volunteer Opportunity: This placement will provide an excellent opportunity for students to build their knowledge regard to marine life and the marine environment while gaining teaching experience, French language practice, communication skills, developing a sense of teamwork and exploring career options through:

- participating in daily teaching routines and operations in our galleries and behind the scenes
- teaching children about marine life and the major

- conservation issues in marine ecosystems
- participating in and facilitating safe handling of marine invertebrate animals as well as animal artifacts

Skills

Preferred:

- Outgoing, enthusiastic and self-motivated
- Students currently in Grades 10, 11 or 12.
- High level of professionalism and commitment
- Interest in marine biology, teaching, working with children, or any combination thereof
- Experience and/or genuine interest in educating or interacting with students
- Strong English oral communications skills
- Strong French oral communications skills

Please Note: Previous teaching or biology experience is an asset, but not necessary. Training will be provided.

Volunteer Benefits:

- Gain experience in working in groups and with children
- Build knowledge of marine life and marine environment
- Gain teaching experience in an informal setting
- Priority placement in the volunteer training
- Gain work experience hours

Interested Students:

If you have interested students, we ask that you advise them to apply by clicking on the link below. They will then be directed to our online application form through our volunteer management database.

By clicking the "Fill in an Application" button on the right side of the website, they can complete their application by entering in all of the required fields. Please advise them **to complete this application in one sitting** as they may have difficulty editing their profile afterwards.

Please note students will be given the option to upload their resume & cover letter during this application, so I suggest having these on hand before beginning this process.

If you could also please remind your students to ensure that they have selected "Wex Student" when asked what type of volunteer placement they are applying for, and Marine Educator Bilingual K to Gr 3 Work Experience Placement as the name of the specific position applying for.

Students must also select Tuesday under the shift dates & times option.

[Click here to see our volunteer opportunities](#)



Please refer to the attached PDF "How To" guide if you have any questions regarding this process.

Students' applications will then be reviewed and applicants will be contacted for an in-person or telephone interview approximately 4 days before the interview.

Please submit all online applications by December 14th

If you require more information about the Aquarium's Work Experience Program, our new application forms, or the specific responsibilities of the students, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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