

## Field Trip Observations

*This assignment is due at the end of the field trip.*

### The challenge.

Investigate how volunteer or staff educators in informal science education institutions communicate scientific knowledge with the general public.

### The task.

1. Observe the interactions at **each** of the following
  - A guided interaction at touch tank, cart, or exhibit
  - A narrated feeding show (*see schedule on page 3*)
  - A family group interacting at an exhibit without staff or volunteer facilitating the interaction

Take notes on pages 2-4 for each of the above interactions addressing three areas:

- Interactions with objects
  - Talk - Interactions between people
  - Your personal response
2. *After* all your observations, write your responses addressing the following areas.
    - What are some of the things that you saw facilitators do that made for effective interactions? What else might the facilitator do to make the interactions even more effective? Explain your reasoning.
  
    - What would the visitors say or do that would make you think the interaction was effective?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - What is available at the aquarium to make the knowledge, space, and experiences accessible to a wide range of audiences?

## **Field Trip Observations**

### **Facilitated Tidepool Touch tank**

#### Interactions

What do you notice about how the visitors and facilitator are interacting with the objects?

#### Talk

How are the visitors and facilitators talking with one another (between visitors, between visitors and facilitators)?

#### Your Personal Response (answer all three questions)

What did you like, and why?

What do you think was the goal of the interaction?

What would you do differently, and why?

**Field Trip Observations**

**Feeding Show**

Interactions

What do you notice about how the visitors and facilitator are interacting with the objects?

Talk

How are the visitors and facilitators talking with one another (between visitors, between visitors and facilitators)?

Your Personal Response (answer all three questions)

What did you like, why? What do you think was the goal of the interaction? What would you do differently, and why?

Feeding Schedule				Other shows
<b>Kelp Forest Feeding</b> Where: Kelp Forest Exhibit When: 11:30 a.m. Length: 15 minutes	<b>Sea Otter Feeding</b> Where: Sea Otter Exhibit When: 10:30am, 1:30 p.m. Length: 15 minutes	<b>Penguin Feeding</b> Where: Splash Zone Exhibit When: 10:30 a.m. Length: 15 minutes	<b>Open Sea Feeding</b> Where: Open Sea Exhibit When: 11:00 a.m. Length: 15 minutes	<b>Albatross Encounter</b> Where: Kelp Forest Exhibit When: 1:30 p.m. Length: 15 minutes

**Field Trip Observations**

**Un-facilitated Family Interaction at an Exhibit**

Interactions

What do you notice about how the visitors are interacting with the objects?

Talk

How are the visitors talking with one another (between children, between children and adults)?

Your Personal Response (answer both questions)

What did you like, why?

How does this un-facilitated interaction compare with the facilitated ones?