

READY TO MAKE AN IMPACT?



OCEAN CONNECTORS VOLUNTEER,

First and foremost, we extend our warmest gratitude for your heartfelt interest in volunteering with Ocean Connectors. Your willingness to dedicate your time and passion to the betterment of our oceans is a beacon of hope, and we are truly honored to welcome you aboard.

In these pages, you'll discover a world of opportunities to make a difference, including field trips, whale watching, restoration work, Eco Tours, and cleanup events. At Ocean Connectors, we believe that every effort counts, and your involvement amplifies our collective ability to protect and preserve our oceans. Each moment you spend with us, whether observing whales, planting native vegetation, or guiding fellow nature enthusiasts, creates a ripple effect of positive change.

As you delve into this guidebook, envision the knowledge you'll gain, the communities you'll impact, and the experiences you'll cherish during your volunteer journey. Together, we are not just volunteers; we are ocean stewards and advocates for a sustainable future.

Thank you again for choosing to volunteer with us. Your dedication is the driving force behind our mission. Let's get started on your adventure!

With immense gratitude and enthusiasm,

The Ocean Connectors Team

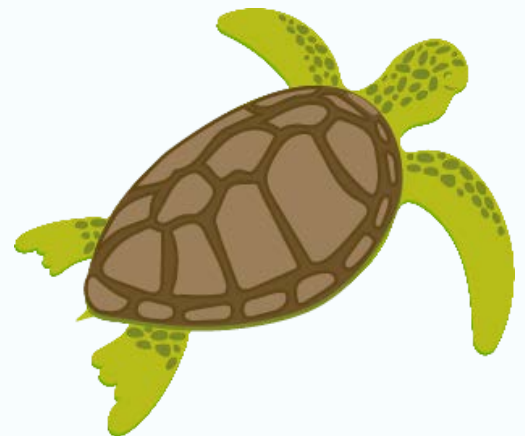


WHAT'S NEXT?



SECTIONS

1. Ocean Connectors' Ambassador
2. Field Trips
3. Whale Watching Naturalist
4. Restoration
5. Eco Tours
6. Kayak and Beach Cleanups
7. Additional Ways to Support
8. Next Steps



OCEAN CONNECTORS AMBASSADOR



BECOME AN OCEAN CONNECTORS AMBASSADOR!

Email shailey@oceanconnectors.org for flyers to our upcoming events. Then, print and post them at your favorite trailheads, parks, coffee shops, group hangout spots, and any other of your favorite community spaces. Additionally, send them to your friends, family, coworkers, and others that might want to get involved in the Ocean Connectors' mission.

Follow us on social media!



www.facebook.com/OceanConnectors/



www.instagram.com/oceanconnectors

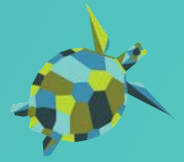
This is the easiest way you can help support Ocean Connectors! By liking, commenting, and reposting our posts our audience grows. Together, through social media interactions we can connect more people to the ocean and increase engagement with our organization.

Are you ready? Start by following us today!



FIELD TRIPS

BE PART OF A TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE, BOTH FOR YOURSELF AND THE YOUNG MINDS YOU'LL BE GUIDING.



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WHAT YOU WILL DO:

1. Empower youth with knowledge about diverse migratory marine species, fostering a deep understanding of the ocean's biodiversity.
2. Field trips with Ocean Connectors are not just classroom excursions; they are immersive adventures into nature.
3. Each grade level studying a different migratory marine species ensures a comprehensive understanding of various oceanic life forms.
4. Through these field trips, you instill a sense of responsibility and advocacy in young minds.
5. Volunteering on Ocean Connectors field trips allows you to build meaningful connections with both students and fellow volunteers.
6. By connecting youth to marine conservation, you are contributing to the creation of a generation that values and protects our oceans.

OUR FIELD TRIPS:

3RD GRADE TIDAL ZONE DISCOVERY

Learning about local tide pools in & outside the classroom.

4TH GRADE SEA TURTLE DISCOVERY

Visit Living Coast Discovery Center as students learn about the Eastern Pacific green sea turtle.

5TH GRADE WHALE EXPLORATION

Come aboard a Flagship Whale Watching Boat and teach students about the gray whale migration.

6TH GRADE BIRD & HABITAT STUDY

Take part in birding, habitat restoration, and a microscope lab at the San Diego Wildlife Refuge.

7TH GRADE SHARK INVESTIGATION

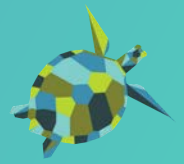
Aquarium visits or hands-on learning on the bayshore.

8TH GRADE OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

Remove marine debris via kayak and host learning labs on the living shoreline



WHALE WATCHING NATURALIST



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WELCOME, FUTURE NATURALIST!

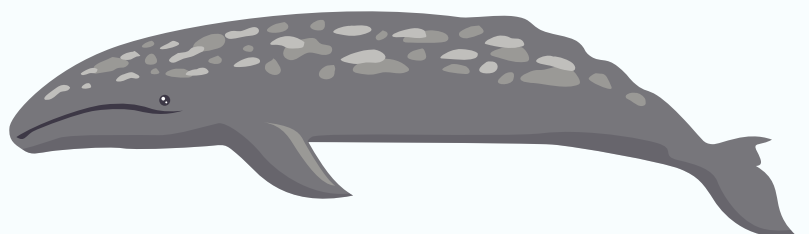
As a volunteer naturalist on the Flagship Cruises, you are embarking on a journey to educate and connect people with these magnificent marine mammals. Additionally, you will be representing Ocean 'Connectors' mission to educate, inspire, and connect people to the ocean.

UNDERSTANDING GRAY WHALES

Gray whales are fascinating! We have attached some resources to this email for you to learn about their biology, behavior, migration patterns, and ecological importance. By understanding the whales on a profound level, you can convey this knowledge to your audience, fostering a greater appreciation for these gentle giants. Please see our supplemental links and videos below.

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

There is a box of bio facts located onboard. effective communication strategies and interpretative techniques. From storytelling to hands-on activities, discover engaging ways to captivate your audience, making the learning experience both informative and enjoyable.



RESTORATION



RESTORATION DAYS AT A GLANCE

Once a month on Saturdays, we host a Community Engagement Day at one of our various restoration sites in the South Bay. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end around 1:00 p.m. - encompassing a total of 3 hours of volunteer service time. These events focus on native plant restoration, invasive species removal, and interactive educational activities. We encourage individuals, as well as corporate and school groups to join us to make a positive impact in their environment.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Native Species Planting: Learn the art of planting native species. Understand the best practices for ensuring their survival, including proper planting depth, spacing, and watering techniques.

Invasive Species Removal: Master techniques for identifying and safely removing invasive species. Discover eco-friendly methods that minimize environmental impact.

HAVE A GROUP?

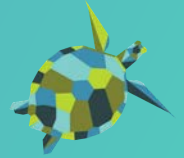
Email shailey@oceanconnectors.org to setup a group volunteer event!



Photo by: Anna Mar

ECO TOURS

DO YOU HAVE THE OCEAN EXPLORER SPIRIT?



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EVERY ECO TOUR

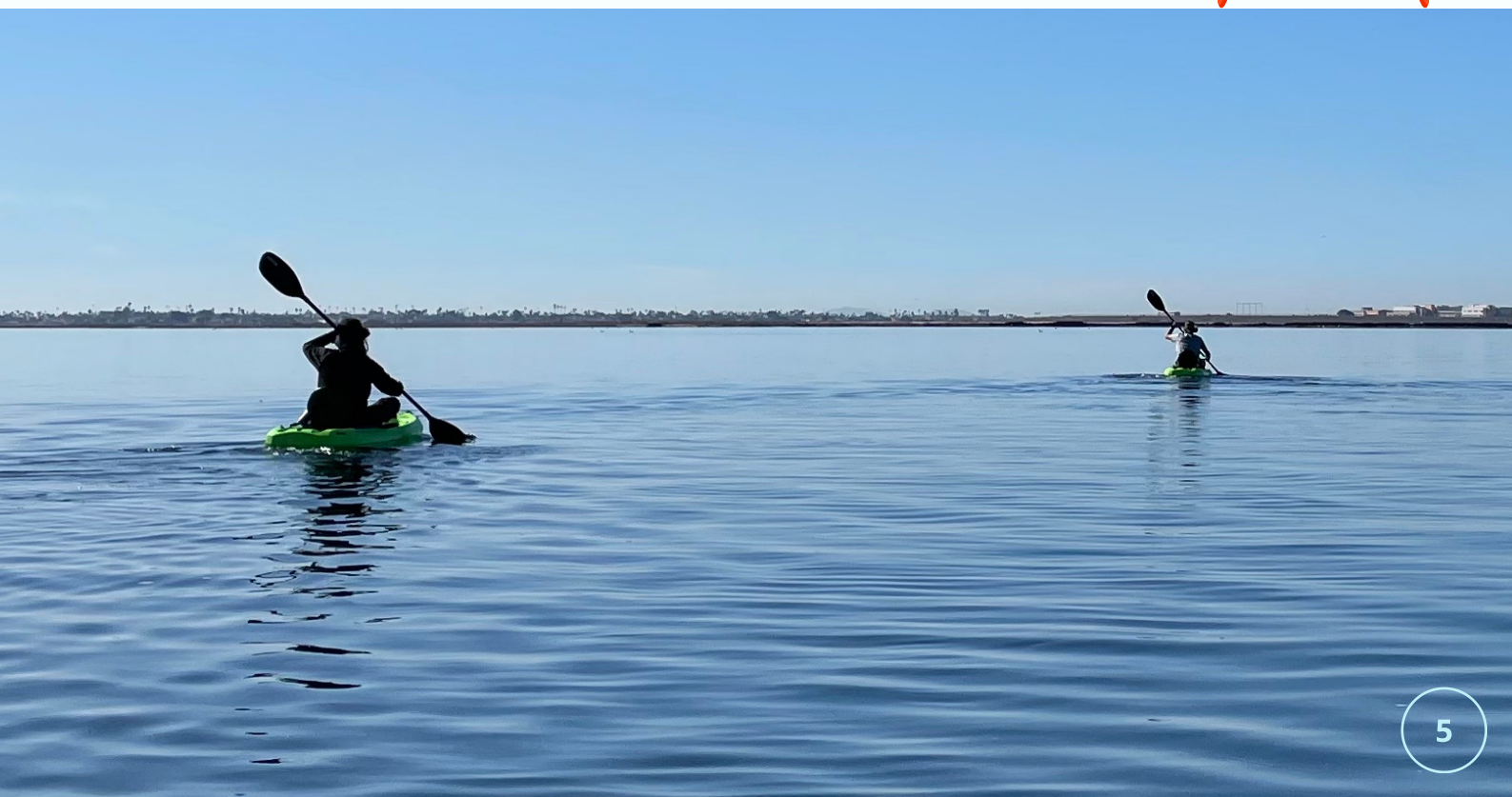
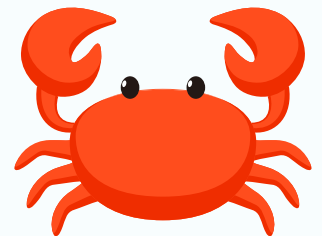
As a volunteer, you represent Ocean Connectors and facilitate interactive learning on every tour. You will help participants connect with the environment, emphasizing the importance of conservation and sustainable practices. Volunteering on our Eco Tours means being part of a passionate team dedicated to environmental education. Your efforts contribute to creating lasting memories for tour attendees. By sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm, you inspire a love for nature, leaving participants with a profound sense of connection to the marine world.

MISSION BAY KAYAK & WILDLIFE KAYAKING ECO TOURS

Guide participants through the scenic beauty of Mission Bay or the restored Chula Vista wetlands. On each tour you will identify common marine species while engaging kayakers in an educational and enjoyable journey. Your role involves ensuring everyone's safety while enhancing the overall experience with your knowledge of local wildlife.

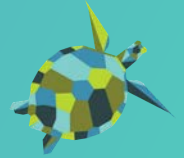
TIDE POOL EXPLORATION ECO TOUR

When volunteering for tide pool exploration, you'll guide participants through mesmerizing coastal habitats, sharing insights about unique marine life. You'll help uncover the secrets of tide pools, fostering a deep appreciation for the delicate ecosystems.



CLEANUP EVENTS

WHETHER YOU'RE IN A KAYAK OR ON THE BEACH, YOU'RE
PART OF A TEAM UNITED BY A COMMON GOAL.



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EVERY CLEANUP

Throughout the cleanups, our experienced guides will share insights about marine life, pollution, and the impact of your work. It's not just about cleaning; it's about understanding and preventing pollution. Together, you'll witness the immediate impact of your efforts, leaving the environment cleaner and safer for marine life. You'll leave with a sense of accomplishment, knowing you've contributed to a healthier ocean. Plus, you'll be part of a community committed to ongoing conservation efforts!



KAYAK CLEANUPS

Expect a brief orientation session where safety guidelines and cleanup procedures are explained. Kayaks, paddles, and cleanup materials are all provided. You'll paddle near coastal wetlands in South Bay San Diego, collecting floating debris that are inaccessible from the shore. Wetlands are very sensitive habitats when it comes to pollution and climate change.

BEACH CLEANUPS

There will be a brief safety orientation regarding cleanup procedures. Then, you'll receive gloves, bags, and instructions on identifying & collecting debris. You'll explore the sands, gathering plastics, litter, and other waste. We will try to have you categorize what you find and sort the recyclables, landfill wastes, and e-wastes to aid in the sorting and disposal process.

HAVE A GROUP?

Email shailey@oceanconnectors.org to setup a group volunteer event!

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO SUPPORT!



SUPPORTING IS AS EASY AS...

1. DONATIONS

Use the QR code to donate or reach out to shailey@oceanconnectors.org for in-kind donations.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Make your donation recurring and enjoy a free yearly Eco Tour. Plus, many other exciting perks!

3. BOOK AN ECO TOUR

Join us for an outdoor adventure that directly contributes to our education programs!

DONATE!



Book an Eco Tour



MEMBERSHIP



Krill

\$5/month

Krill are small but mighty! They represent one of the largest biomasses in the Ocean, and provide sustenance all the way up the food chain.

- Your recurring gift supports the hands on learning experiences for one student for the entire year.

WHAT YOU GET INCLUDES:

- One Free EcoTour per year. *This pays for itself!*



Mackerel

\$10/month

Holy Mackerel! What an amazing fish. They can live to be 20 years old, and travel in schools. All you mackerel, where would we be without you?

- Your recurring gift supports 2 students for the entire year (one in the US and one in Mexico), and allows them to share their knowledge and conservation work with each other (for inspiration and connection!)

WHAT YOU GET INCLUDES:

- One Free EcoTour per year.
- 50% discount on merchandise in our store (including additional EcoTour tickets!)



Shark

\$20/month

Sharks may be fearsome to some, but they are a critical species in our ocean's ecosystems.

- Your recurring gift supports both students and provides an opportunity for the community to engage in actionable conservation work, including kayak cleanups, restoration, and Citizen Science.

WHAT YOU GET INCLUDES:

- One Free EcoTour per year.
- 50% discount on merchandise in our store (including additional EcoTour tickets!)
- Free access to special events (Our wine tasting fundraiser, gratitude cruise, or network happy hours)



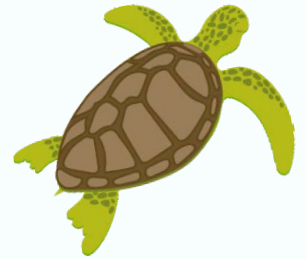
Whale

You designate your monthly donation of \$50 or more

If you are willing to make a larger monthly contribution, you will have a tremendous positive impact on our mission. You are the far-reaching whales of our community, the largest creatures on our planet (with the biggest hearts!) A larger donation will automatically include:

- One Free EcoTour per year.
- 50% discount on merchandise in our store (including additional EcoTour tickets!)
- Free access to special events (Our wine tasting fundraiser, gratitude cruise, or network happy hours)
- Free yearly gifts

NEXT STEPS!



MEET WITH SHAILEY!

Use the Calendly link in the email to schedule a meeting with **Shailey** for an orientation call.

VOLUNTEER PACKET FOR FIELD TRIPS

Complete the NSD packet and TB test then email them to **shailey@oceanconnectors.org**.

FIRST DAY

Some of our opportunities require a day of training and others you learn as you go.

MORE VIDEOS

Check the email for videos about our field trips, eco tours, and education programs.

THANK YOU!

Your involvement with Ocean Connectors is more than a contribution; it's a commitment to the future of our oceans. By actively participating in native species restoration and invasive species removal, you are creating a positive ripple effect that reaches far beyond the immediate shores.

Together, we can protect our marine ecosystems, ensuring they thrive for generations to come.

Thank you for being a steward of our oceans. Your dedication is the driving force behind the change we wish to see in the world.

