

MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTE

The MSI field trip was the best day of my life

Aaron Tejero
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The best field trip I went to was to San Francisco Bay aboard the MSI in October. They also came to our school on another day and brought animals. Let me tell you about

my field trip

First, we looked at plankton under a microscope. We got to touch a bat ray. We caught fish but we couldn't touch them. Also, from the bottom of the last minute show sea I put mud on my face. We touched fish and they put them in buck-

ets and we went into stations. Everyone saw a bloodworm.

Next they came to our school and they brought dead birds and fish. Also we went to stations so we could see other animals and fishes. They taught us about the birds. We didn't know some facts about

the birds. I learned that some swim and some fly. I was happy they came to us at our school.

This was the best trip of my life. I got to go on a long trip with my friends and learned a lot of new things I never knew about. Thank you, MSI.

Learning about the Starry Flounder with MSI

Alayah Mae Virgil
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I learned so much while the Marine Science Institute staff was at my school!

One thing I learned is there's this fish called the "Starry Flounder." The Starry Flounder is a fish that is basically a normal fish at first, then after a while, it spends its life on the bay floor on its side.

Now, it would be pretty hard to live with your eye stuck in the sand, so the Starry Flounder shifts its eye to the other side of its head, so it has two eyes on one side — pretty interesting.

If you want to learn more interesting facts about animals or birds and more, you should go to the MSI. It is a great place to learn and have fun!

Finding out all about the Brandt Cormorant

Joshua Davies
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Did you know that the Brandt Cormorant is a bird that eats a variety of fish, including shrimp and crabs? This was one fact I learned about when the MSI staff came to my classroom and taught me about some of the marine life in the San Francisco Bay.

The Brandt Cormorant, also known as the Phalacrocorax Penicillatus, was the one bird that stood out the most during the presentation because of its cool features. Not only does it eat a wide variety of fish, in order to get those fish he has to dive deep in the water to get them.

The Brandt Cormorant can swim down to 200 feet underwater because of its special webbed feet! Its feet are webbed at an angle and look like diving fins that humans can wear.

I learned a lot from this presentation and suggest it to all classes.

Students learn about ocean animals from MSI presenters

Bryan Barron
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

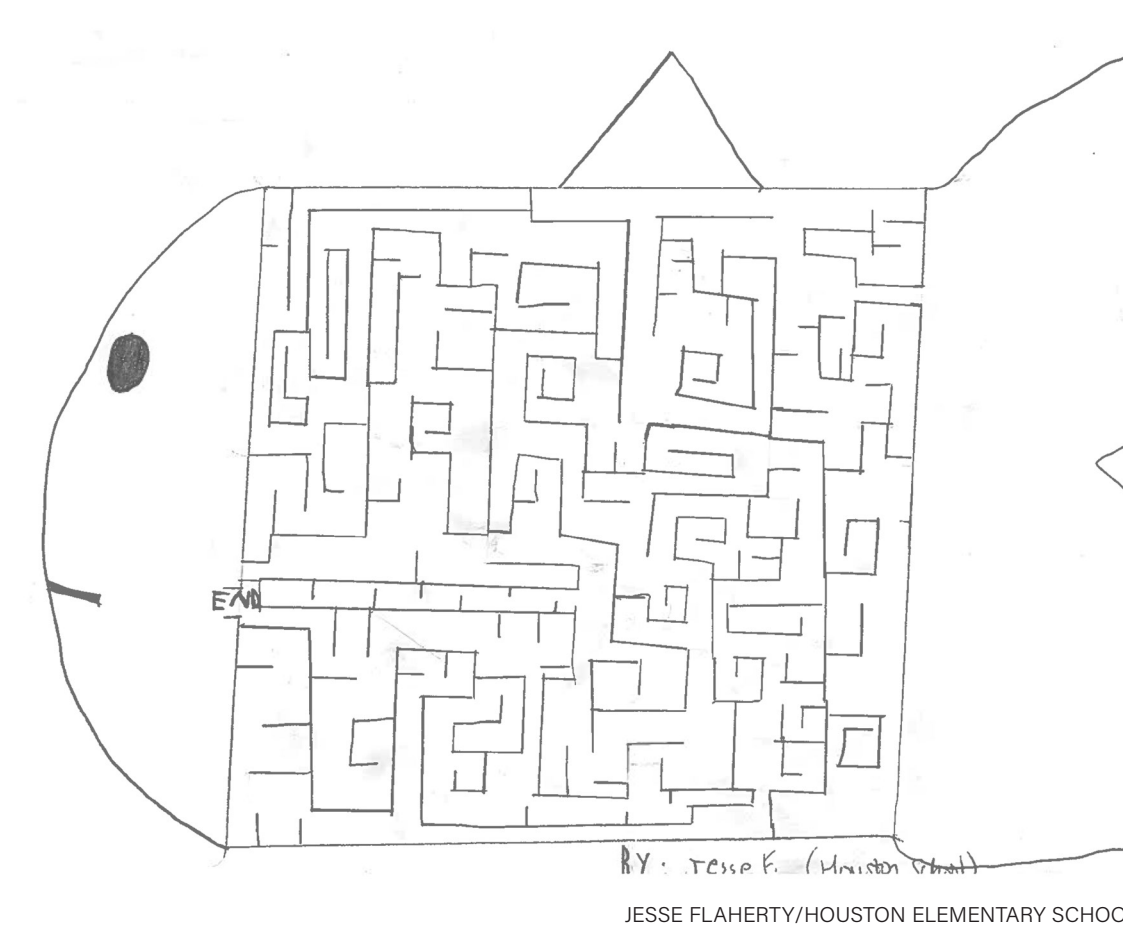
Has MSI come to your school before? They came to my school with fish and birds.

The Starry Flounder was one fish that I saw and it was my favorite. It is also known as spotted corsairs.

The Starry Flounder is flat and when you touch it with two fingers it feels slimy. Its eyes are not like most fish and are found only on one side.

The Starry Flounder can be different colors and it can have different patterns, too. It also has the ability to blend into rocks and the bottom of the bay.

In conclusion, I had fun learning about the Starry Flounder and I hope the Marine Science Institute staff come back.



Aboard a research vessel in the S.F. Bay

Edward Ruiz
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

My classroom went on a field trip to MSI in San Francisco Bay, and they also came another day to our classroom. They brought animals. Let me tell you about it.

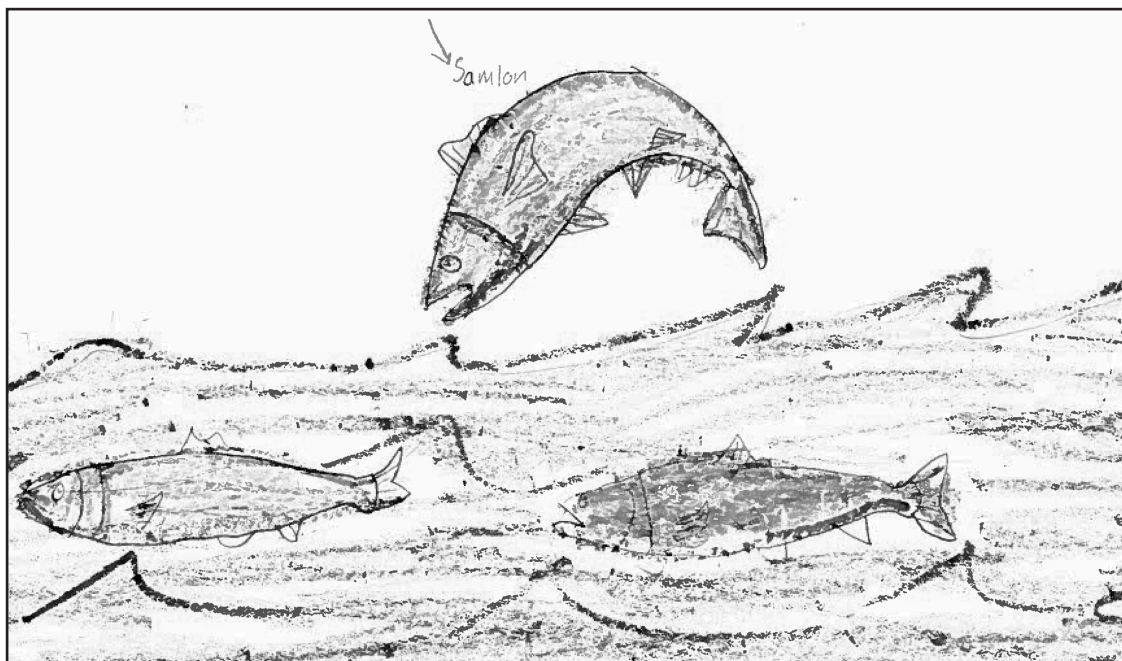
First, we went on the boat called the Robert G. Brownlee. We caught fish in a big net

and then the staff put them in buckets so we could touch them. In one of the stations they put mud and we saw a bloodworm and we put mud from the bottom of the ocean on our faces. Another station they put a drop of water in a microscope and we saw plankton.

Next they went to our classroom and brought stuffed birds

and they bought the birds on fishes and buckets. I learned that the birds that had webbed feet are good at swimming and good at catching fishes.

In conclusion, this was one of my best field trips because we went to San Francisco Bay and went on a boat and they went to our classroom and showed us about different animals.



Studying fish and birds in the Bay with MSI

Blakely Perez
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Have you ever touched a fish? Well, on April 10, I got to see a fish and touch them. I also got to see some dead birds, but they were alive at some time, but it was a great experience.

I got to touch some fish. I was so scared to touch them but I did it. In fact I touched

every single one of them, but one of them didn't let me touch him but I did it. My favorite part of the fish is when I got to scoop up the sea snails. It was a great experience. It was a lot of fun. I wish I could do it again.

I got to see some birds. It was my favorite station because when I was observing the bird I saw something that was different. One of the fish had

land feet and the other one had webbed feet. I thought about it and it turns out the birds with webbed feet could float while the others could not. Another way you could tell is the wings cast and others.

In conclusion, it was so much fun. I wish everyone could have the same experience as me or better. I think you would enjoy it.

Bat rays, the bay floor and more in San Francisco Bay

Marcelina Valdovinos
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On my field trip on the MSI boat, I learned a lot of new things. I learned about bat rays, the differences between the bay water at the top versus the bottom of the bay, and about the mud on the bay floor.

One thing I learned about was the bat ray. I got to touch a bat ray! It was smooth, but it had a type of slime on the bat

ray's body. The slime looked clear but it was blue or black. I thought bat rays were called stingrays, but I was wrong. I learned the slime on bat rays protects them from getting sick.

Next, we studied the water in the bay. We took samples of the water at the top and the bottom of the bay. We took the temperature of the water, looked at the plankton found, and measured the salinity of the water. We also caught big

and small fish in a net that was dragged behind the boat. We counted and measured the fish we caught and then released them back into the bay.

At the end of the day, I had a great time on the MSI boat learning about the bay. My favorite part was when I was able to touch the mud that we pulled up from the bottom of the bay and put it on my face. I would highly recommend this field trip to other people!

Brackish or fresh water? Finding out more out in the field

Daniel Serrano
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Marine Science Institute boat in my opinion is one of the funnest field trips a class can experience!

On the boat you can learn about all of the different things about the San Francisco Bay. One thing I learned was that

the water in the bay is called brackish water. That is what you call water when freshwater and saltwater mix together.

We also collected samples of the water so we could talk about the difference between the top water and bottom water temperatures.

My favorite part of being

on the boat was putting a big net in the brackish water. I learned how to safely put the net in the water and how to pull it back into the boat. We pulled a lot of unknown fish up and examined them.

Being on the MSI was super fun, and I recommend you experience the trip.

Ocean

By Brooklyn Valenzuela
BORCHARDT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Only salt water
Crabs in tide pools
Each crab has 2 pinchers
All are different
Nutrients everywhere

Poem

Judah Kolber
ELKHORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

From egg to Alavin to tiny
Salmon fry
standing in the Mokelumne
River by
the rushing waters straight
from Camanche
I wave goodbye to my little
ward
As she swims to the sea
toward
A life in the ocean for a few
years at least
As long as she avoids a
hungry beast
Goodbye and Farewell,
on your journey down the
Mokelumne

Bay

By Dilshaan Singh
BORCHARDT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Brackish water
Animals at the bottom of
the bay
You will see bay inverte-
brates

Salmon Cinquain

Hannah Daher
ELKHORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Chinook
Wild, happy, and free
How they came from small
eggs
Oh how they are free in the
wind and speed
Lucky

Ocean

By Bellany Razo
BORCHARDT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ocean water is salty
Crabs live in a shell
Each sea snail has a shell
A crab has two pinchers
No fresh water in the
ocean

ODE

Amrit Samra
ELKHORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Oh salmon yes salmon
the ones that we released,
the ones that we cherish.
Oh salmon and those
sweet memories you were
all so different and all so
unique how I long for you
each day. Please come back
to me I never did want you
to leave please please please
come back to me.
Why did you leave me
and go to that river, the
Mokelumne River? You
must be so big now so much
different. I might not recog-
nize you. Bye sweet salmon
are you having a good time
please tell me you are,
please tell me you remem-
ber those days in my class
the days when you were
just an egg just a fry how
I wish to see you now bye
salmon bye.

Poem

Le Khanh Ha Phan
ELKHORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mokelumne River as clear
as the air
The color? I don't where
The salmon? There
The current flows with the
wind like me getting a little
scare
From a salmon that is
there.

Starry Flounder and Chameleon Goby fish facts

Alan Cabrera Gutierrez
BECKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

There was a presentation in the classroom about birds and fish found in the San Francisco Bay. I was able to touch three fish and one snail. One of the fish, called a Starry Flounder, has two eyes on just one side of its head. When I touched it, he felt slimy.

There was another fish called the Chameleon Goby. They call him a Chameleon Goby because his eyes move in different directions like a Chameleon and when there's a predator trying to eat him he is able to camouflage into his surroundings so he isn't seen.