

This document is intended to be used as an example programme for the KS3 & KS4 Virtual Tours. Delivery content may vary on the day, in accordance with student programme and aquarium exhibit access.

Location	Tour Element	Content / Key Questions	Keywords	Duration	Science Curriculum Links
Plymouth Sound Exhibit	Introduction	Pupils will be introduced to their tour guide, who will provide an overview of how the tour will run.	/	5 mins	/
	Rockpool and Wave Tank	This is a wonderful area for pupils to meet lots of our local species that can be found in the Plymouth Sound. The discussion will focus on rockpool ecosystems, looking at the creatures that live there and how they are adapted to survive.	Ecosystems, biotic, abiotic, biodiversity, interdependence, niche, photosynthesis.	15 mins	Ecosystems (biotic/abiotic factors, biodiversity, interdependence) Photosynthesis.
British Coasts Exhibit	Jewels of the Sound	The discussion about our local creatures will continue here, but pupils will now be asked to think about classification. They will be posed the question: Why do we classify animals? They will be challenged to find a variety of invertebrates/vertebrates and will get a close-up look at our resident octopus.	Ecosystems, biotic, abiotic, biodiversity, interdependence, niche, classification.	5 mins	Ecosystems (biotic/abiotic factors, biodiversity, interdependence) Classification.
	Eddystone Reef	This is a fantastic area to show pupils the range of local creatures that can be found around our British Coasts. They will be introduced to the way our biologists care for our creatures, being encouraged to think about their diet and nutrition. Their guide will also provide them with information on what threats these animals face the wild, covering some key conservation issues such as over-fishing and its effect on Ocean food webs.	Diet, nutrition, carnivore, herbivore, omnivore, opportunistic, scavenger, energy, respiration, food webs.	10 mins	Diet and nutrition, respiration.

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Atlantic Ocean Exhibit	Ocean lab & Moonpool	As this is the area where all the system water chemistry and relevant tests are carried out, pupils will find out about how the biologists ensure good water quality at the Aquarium. A question will be posed to the students: What parameters do you think the biologists test the water for?	pH, salinity, indicator levels, parameters, nitrogen cycle.	10 mins	Nitrogen cycle.
	Atlantic Ocean Tank	Here, the pupils will be introduced to a variety of incredible shark species, stingrays and our resident turtle. The guide will discuss how sharks have evolved, covering aspects of evolution, natural selection and inheritance.	Evolution, natural selection, survival of the fittest, inheritance, variation.	15 mins	Evolution/natural selection.
Blue Planet Exhibit	Biozone	Pupils will be taught about coral reef ecosystems, learning about how some of our Aquarium residents interact with each other and their environment. Pupils will get a close-up look at our clownfish, regal blue tangs and several species of real coral.	Ecosystems, biotic, abiotic, biodiversity, interdependence, niche, photosynthesis.	10 mins	Ecosystems (biotic/abiotic factors, biodiversity, interdependence)
	Great Barrier Reef	This is a perfect area for pupils to learn about the importance of coral reefs and the threats that they face. They will be encouraged to consider how we can combat global warming and how scientists help to protect the Ocean through scientific research.	Conservation, ocean acidification, global warming.	10 mins	Human impact, conservation and research.