HOME EDUCATOR

Deep Dive Workshops

2026-2027



ocean conservation trust

Date	Workshop	Target Age	Deep Dive Workshop Description
30th September 2026	Underwater Evolution	8-11	Underwater Evolution begins with a simple introduction to essential evolution-linked terminology, including adaptation, inheritance, variation, and natural selection. Participants will then be taken on a journey from the origins of life on Earth all the way through to the modern age. Pencils and dice in hand, learners will track and document the evolution of their own single celled organisms, but who will make it to the modern age, and what new challenges await in an uncertain future?
21st October 2026	Ocean Artist	5+	Our Ocean Artist session will give your children the opportunity to practice a range of observational drawing techniques as they are guided through the Aquarium exhibits by one of our Learning Officers. A range of media options will be available throughout the tour and will be challenged to use a different technique at each exhibit, from continuous line drawing, repeating patterns and shading. This hands-on drawing tour allows learners to make full practical use of their creativity as they immerse themselves in the inspiring world of Aquatic life. If your learners won't be bringing a sketchbook, we can help the group make their very own zines for them to work in and take home!
25th November 2026	Energy Investigators	9-12	In this hands-on workshop, learners will become real scientists and study the link between the ocean and the climate. The session begins in a deep dive into electricity generation through exciting scientific models and demonstrations. Next, hands-on experiments that demonstrate how carbon dioxide affects the ocean and its inhabitants. The session will conclude with a sensitive discussion on how we can all reduce our carbon footprints, leaving everyone feeling inspired to make a difference. *Please be aware, this session involves handling potential allergens including dairy products and lemon juice If you have any concerns you can call us on 01752 275233.
16th December 2026	Shark Hoist	7-14	Your learners will begin by discussing the important roles and responsibilities of Aquarium engineers and marine biologists. Inspired by the challenge of moving large animals around the biggest Aquarium in the country, your learners will work in groups to create stretchers suitable for a hammerhead shark, along with a winch system that can lift it safely and securely. Using a range of building materials, learners will practice teamwork, design skills, critical thinking and evaluation techniques before putting their hoists to the test!

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27th January 2027	New! Blue Mind Creatives	5+	Are you passionate about the Ocean? Do you love being creative and artistic? Then this is the session for you! Beat the January blues in this relaxing and rejuvenating workshop. We will learn about the positive benefits gained by immersing ourselves in blue spaces, and use the Ocean as a focus for creative rest. In a carousel of artistic activities, we will explore using a range of materials to creatively design and make artwork that reflects our personal connection to the Ocean. Please note that artistic materials including paint and glue will be used in this session, so we recommend that you wear something you don't mind getting dirty or bring an apron.
24th February 2027	Inventafish	7-11	Inventafish begins with a discussion with the group considering how the animals around the aquarium are suited to their specific environments. Children will then use these discussions as well as some real life Ocean artefacts as inspiration to design their own perfectly adapted sea creatures using an array of features from any animals they can imagine
24th March 2027	New! Pollution Solution	8-11	This workshop will take your pupils understanding of the issue of "waste" to the next level. Getting hands on with a sorting exercise, the session will start by better understanding why recycling is so difficult, and how can we be better at it. We will look at the journey of waste at the end of its lifecycle, how it affects marine life and why beach cleans aren't the only solution! Using interactive demonstrations, activities and games your learners will leave this session inspired and confident that pollution does have a solution!
28th April 2027	New! Senses in the Sea	4-7	In this sensory workshop learners will be immersed in the magic of the underwater world. Using their sense of touch & sight, they will get hands on exploring real life Ocean treasures such as a starfish, mermaids purses and a turtle shell. As a group they will recreate the sounds of the reef, and even try to identify the different smells of the seashore. There will be interactive Ocean-themed story, allowing children to develop their comprehension, speaking, and listening skills. The session will close with a short craft time where a choice of recycled materials will be available to encourage creativity.
26th May 2027	Rediscover Rockpooling **(14:00 - 15:30) @Mount Batten Beach**	5-16	This immersive workshop is a great way for young people to discover the many plants and animals that can be found in the rock pools along the shoreline. We will meet you at *Mount Batten beach and participants will learn all about how rock pool creatures are suited to living in a constantly changing environment. We will learn the best spots to look out for crabs, anemones, and starfish in their natural habitat, whilst gaining an understanding of the rockpool code. **Please be aware that for each booking, one adult must come prepared to rockpool with their participating children. Children cannot rockpool without adult supervision.** *Subject to change due to current beach closure. We will be in touch to confirm closer to the time.