

A young child with dark hair, wearing an orange hoodie and grey sweatpants, stands on a rocky shore covered in seaweed. The child is holding a white bucket and looking down into it. In the background, a marina with many sailboats is visible under a clear blue sky. The sun is bright in the top left corner, creating a lens flare effect. A large pink shape is on the left side of the image, containing the text.

HOME EDUCATOR DEEP DIVE WORKSHOPS 2025-2026

Date	Workshop	Target Age	Deep Dive Workshop Description
3rd September 2025	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?
22nd October 2025	New! 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.
26th November 2025	Ocean Artist	5-7	Our Observational Drawing 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 dedicated Schools' Officers. A range of media options will be available throughout their tour and will be challenged to use a different technique at each exhibit, from continuous line drawing, repeating patterns and shading. This hands-on observational drawing tour allows children to make full practical use of their creativity as they immerse themselves in the inspiring world of Aquatic life.
17th December 2025	New! Stop Motion Animation	7-14	Creativity is key in this unique workshop. Children will work in groups to design a storyboard and then film their very own stop motion video. Using inspiration from the 5000 animals that live here at the National Marine Aquarium, each team will explore what it takes to be a successful science communicator. Groups will be given a current issue and tasked with creating an emotive and engaging video that will advocate for the Ocean, raising awareness and encouraging connections.

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28th January 2026	Ocean Scientist	5-7	The Ocean Scientist workshop is the perfect introduction to Marine Science! The children will start by working in groups to conduct an experiment on the qualities of seawater. The group will then investigate a variety of real Ocean specimens, including mermaid's purses and turtle shells, discussing what animal they are from and their function. The final challenge, 'Picking Plankton', is a fun-filled practical exploration of the feeding techniques used by a variety of Ocean creatures.
25th February 2026	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
25th March 2026	Plastic Seas	8-14	During this interactive workshop, pupils will get hands-on with real-life Ocean artefacts! They will then explore the recreated stomach contents of a marine animal before classifying their findings. This will include organic materials such as fish and squid from a local supplier, as well as plastic waste. We will also create a food chain to look at the impact plastic has once it reaches the Ocean, before discussing how we are able to make positive changes to combat plastic pollution.
29th April 2026	Meet the Mermaid	4-7	This magical literacy workshop will involve a real-life encounter with one of our resident mermaids! During story time, a tale written by our head mermaid Marina will feature a gentle and positive introduction to the Ocean and its inhabitants. Next, children will take part in a simple mermaid-themed craft activity, during which they will create their very own mermaid design!
27th May 2026	Rockpool Safari (9:30am)	5-16	This immersive workshop at Mount Batten beach lets students explore rock pools and discover the diverse plants and animals living there. Participants will learn how these creatures adapt to their changing environment and find the best spots for crabs, anemones, and starfish. The workshop also covers the rockpool code and the importance of ocean conservation, offering tips on how to help protect our oceans.