



Key to the Sea

Ready to Sign Up?

Reserve your field trip by calling one of our 4 partner aquaria. A confirmed field trip date is required before you can register for a workshop. Make sure you request the Key to the Sea program!

Submit the Registration/Notification Form. All teachers, including veterans, must submit their own form. Register via the online form, or by mail or fax with the printable form. We'll send you a confirmation.

Attend a Workshop (Year 1 and Year 2) and Prepare Your Students. Use your training and the provided curriculum, along with our online Teaching Aids, to prepare your class.

Hit the Beach! Take your students on their Beach Exploration field trip

Post-Field Trip After the field trip, your students will enjoy the enviro-frames and photos, along with other post-field trip lessons.

Send Back Your Post-Program Evaluation. After participating, please fill out the evaluation, which was handed out at your workshop or field trip. This helps to secure future funding and to improve the program. If you would like a copy of the evaluation, please contact us at 310-451-1500 x147.

Key to the Sea is Heal the Bay's free* marine environmental education program for teachers and K-5 classrooms in Los Angeles County.

The program focuses on watersheds, the storm drain system, pollution prevention, the sandy beach habitat, and environmental stewardship. It includes engaging hands-on activities for students, including a field trip to the beach, as well as exciting professional development opportunities for teachers.

About the Program

Professional Development

To participate in Key to the Sea, teachers must first attend a professional development workshop, during which you will be given a multi-disciplinary standards-aligned curriculum guide as well as supplies to implement lessons back in the classroom. Teachers find the workshops fun and inspiring—and we serve lunch! After completing workshops I and II, you become a Veteran Teacher and do not need to attend any more workshops in order to be a part of Key to the Sea.

Beach Exploration Field Trip

The heart of the *Key to the Sea* program for your students is a field trip to a local aquarium and beach. The field trip is designed to encourage students to use their senses and become aware of the environment around them, and includes:

- Guided Beach Exploration: Dig for animals in the sand and play educational games.
- Bird Detectives: Using binoculars, students identify shore birds and their adaptations.
- Pollution and Solutions: Students learn about pollution and how they can help.

Field trips take place at one of four local partner aquaria: Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, Manhattan Beach Roundhouse, the Redondo Beach Sea Laboratory and the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium.

Workshop Descriptions and Veteran Teacher Participation

Workshop I

- For K-5 teachers who are participating in *Key to the Sea* for the first time.
- Covers watersheds, local marine life, marine conservation, and more.
- Includes a supply-filled tote bag and curriculum notebook!

The New Workshop II

- For K-5 teachers who completed Workshop I and did *Key to the Sea* last year.
- Topics include waves and tides, habitats and organism adaptations and more.
- Includes "make-and-take" teaching tools, curriculum folder, and a t-shirt!

Veteran Teacher Participation

- Once you have completed Workshop I and Workshop II, there are no further workshops to attend in order to have a *Key to the Sea* field trip. Still, *it is mandatory that veteran teachers submit the Workshop Registration/Veteran Teacher Notification Form.*

*Note: Some field trip locations may have additional costs associated with them. Please refer to the Field Trip Options page. Buses are not provided; however, some funding may be available. Please call 310-451-1500 x147 for more information.