

# BROCK CENTER ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

3663 Marlin Bay Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455



The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Brock Center Environmental Education Program is an active educational experience that gives students the opportunity to investigate the waterways of Hampton Roads to learn about their connection to the Chesapeake Bay. This program is available at the Brock Environmental Center in Virginia Beach, and at several canoe sites around Hampton Roads and on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland. At the Brock Center, participants will discover the complex relationships between land-use practices and the lower Chesapeake Bay by exploring Pleasure House Point and the [Brock Environmental Center](#), a certified [Living Building Challenge™](#) building! At all sites, participants will sample for aquatic life biodiversity and perform water quality tests to further their understanding of the health of their local environment. They will learn about the effects of human activities on the estuary, local ecosystem health, and watershed dynamics.

CBF's one-day, hands-on field curricula are tailored to suit group dynamics, available time, and weather conditions. Our activities are designed to correlate to the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL), to help teachers get the most out of our programs. Our goal is to actively engage students and promote higher order thinking skills for problem solving.

All of CBF's education programs are equipped with state-of-the-art water quality monitoring equipment. This allows groups to generate data instantaneously, including pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity, and other indicators to build a complete picture of the health of the river.

## PROGRAM CONCEPTS

Here are some concepts and grade-specific activities that may be emphasized during your CBF field experience. The staff of the Brock Center Environmental Education Program will work with you prior to your visit to ensure that your experiences complement your classroom curriculum.

- Estuarine food chain
- Fisheries management
- Oyster reef ecology
- Conservation behaviors
- Sedimentation, eutrophication
- Livelihoods on the Bay
- Mapping skills
- Water-quality testing
- Point source/non-point source pollution
- Salt marsh characteristics
- Watershed dynamics

## SAMPLE PROGRAM

- Safety talk/introductions
- Interactive building tour
- Unload canoes
- Paddling and exploration
- Lunch
- Water-quality testing
- Oyster reef exploration
- Seining
- Load gear and wrap up

For grades four and up. Canoeing is limited to grades six and up. Maximum capacity is 26 canoe-based or 30 land-based participants, including students and chaperones.

To apply for a field experience, visit our website at [cbf.org/apply](http://cbf.org/apply). For inquiries, contact the CBF Scheduling Department at 800/445-5572.



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