



**School Program Name:** Life Between the Tides  
**Name of Sanctuary:** North River Wildlife Sanctuary  
**Grade Level:** P-2  
**Location Options:** Duxbury Beach or a classroom visit  
**Time:** 1.5 hours  
**For more info:** [southshore@massaudubon.org](mailto:southshore@massaudubon.org) or 781-837-9400

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### Program Description

Bring your students to the beach for a saltwater exploration to learn what lives between the tides. Go on a scavenger hunt in search of crabs, discover different kinds of shells, and watch for birds feeding on the shore. Learn about special adaptations that allow marine animals to survive in this sandy, salty habitat.

### Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

**Framework:** Science and Technology  
**Strand:** Life Science  
**Topic:** Characteristics of Living Things  
Living Things and Their Environment

### Learning Standards

#### Characteristics of Living Things

PreK-2 Life Science #1: Recognize that animals (including humans) and plants are living things that grow, reproduce, and need food, air, and water.

PreK-2 Life Science #2: Differentiate between living and nonliving things. Group both living and nonliving things according to the characteristics that they share.

#### Living Things and Their Environment

PreK-2 Life Science #6: Recognize that people and other animals interact with the environment through their senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste.

PreK-2 Life Science#8: Identify the ways in which an organism's habitat provides for its basic needs (plants require air, water, nutrients, and light; animals require food, water, air, and shelter).

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### Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

**Framework:** Science and Technology  
**Strand:** Earth and Space Science  
**Topic:** Periodic Phenomena

### Learning Standards

#### Periodic Phenomena



PreK-2 Earth Science #5: Identify some events around us that have repeating patterns, including the seasons of the year, day and night.

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### Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

**Framework:** English Language Arts  
**Strand:** Language  
**Topic:** Questioning, Listening, and Contributing

### Learning Standards

#### Questioning, Listening, and Contributing

PreK-12 Language #2: Students will pose questions, listen to the ideas of others, and contribute their own information or ideas in group discussions or interviews in order to acquire new knowledge.

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### Lesson Objectives

What will students know and be able to do? These objectives must be observable and measurable.

Students will know and be able to:

- Recognize the basic characteristics and features of the beach habitat.
  - Identify and classify living and non-living things on a beach.
  - Sort shells by certain characteristics (i.e. shape, size, color, texture).
  - Compare how marine animals act during high tide and during low tide.
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### Vocabulary

Adaptation

Crustacean

Filter feeder

Mollusk

Molt

Mudflat

Shell

Tide

Wreck line



## Assessments

How will you know that the students have met the standards?

- Mass Audubon Educator will observe students exploring, observing, and sorting shells and other marine animals.
- Students will participate in answering Mass Audubon Educator-prompted questions about how specific marine animals obtain the resources they need to survive.
- Students will demonstrate their understanding of the tide by identifying the high and low tide lines.

How are you going to engage the students?

- Students will visit a beach habitat to participate in a scavenger hunt. They will observe, collect, and study organisms in their natural habitat.

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## Summarizer

How will the Mass Audubon Educator close the lesson to see if students met the objectives?

- Through a teacher led discussion, students will sort and identify various shells.
- Students will act out the behaviors of certain marine mammals during high and low tides.



## Mass Audubon School Programs

At Mass Audubon we strive to create learning experiences that are enriching, innovative, meaningful, and engaging. All our school programs are aligned with Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. Our network of wildlife sanctuaries and nature centers located in urban, suburban, and rural communities around the state enable us to have strong relationships with local schools.

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## Our Education Foundations

- Place-based education is an educational philosophy that connects learning to what is local for an individual. We help build conservation communities, working with students and teachers in cities and towns to develop place-based environmental education that is linked directly to their home community.
  - Inquiry-based learning is focused on teamwork, being learner-centered, questioning ourselves and the world around us, providing a more focused, time-intensive exploration, promoting lifelong learning, communication, and learning as fun.
  - We are fully committed to creating a positive and supportive environment for all learners.
  - We strive to be culturally sensitive, recognizing and embracing cultural differences.
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## Differentiated Instruction

- We strive to create a positive learning environment that is inclusive, supportive to all learners, and sensitive to cultural diversity.
  - Outdoor classroom experiences are structured to meet the needs of the particular learners.
  - Students work in small groups using hands-on materials.
  - A variety of educational media are used, including colorful illustrations.
  - With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate all learning styles and physical needs.
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## Notes

- Nature exploration is dependent upon the weather and other conditions. A class might observe different wildlife than they expected to see. An outdoor lesson can sometimes provide unexpected, but enriching teachable moments on a natural history topic that was not planned.
- Mass Audubon nature centers each have a unique landscape and will customize programs to work best at their particular site.
- Our lessons can be adapted to incorporate a classroom teacher's needs.

