

## Abbott's Mill (DNS) Educational Programs Slaughter Beach/Marvel Saltmarsh-2014

### Beach Ecology (Beach Eco)

Students investigate and compare the salt marsh, intertidal zone and the sub-tidal water habitats of the DE Bay coastline at Slaughter Beach and the Marvel Saltmarsh Preserve for many different plants and animals. During the field study, students discover how the habitats are ecologically interrelated by visiting the marsh, beachcombing and seining in the bay. In addition, during the spring season, students have an opportunity to examine horseshoe crab spawning and observe the connection to shorebird migration, medicine and the fishing industry.

### Beach Discovery (Beach Disc)

Younger students explore the Slaughter Beach shoreline searching for marine plants and animals. They, investigate the properties of sand, focus on sea turtle nesting strategy and compare and contrast crab species to the horseshoe crab.

### Seashore and Saltmarsh (Sea+SaltM)

Students examine the physical and ecological interrelationship between the salt marsh, dune and beach habitats of the DE Bay coastline at Slaughter Beach and the Marvel Saltmarsh Preserve. Simulating wave action, students build primary and secondary sand dunes and determine the importance of plants to stabilize the sand against erosion. Protected by the dunes, students explore the gentle slope of the land to the saltmarsh to investigate the unique salt-tolerant species of plants and creek systems which are the nurseries of marine life for the bay.

### Rockhounds

Students investigate the geological, past and present, origins of the variety of rocks found on Slaughter Beach. Using dichotomous mineral keys, physical and chemical tests, students have the opportunity to explore in an authentic rock environment.

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Date	Origin	Program	Hours	Grade/Age	#Participants
4/16/14	PA	Beach Eco	3	6G/12yrs	60/4 chaps
4/17/14	PA	Beach Eco	3	6G/12yrs	60/4 chaps
4/25/14	MD	Beach Disc	1	K/5yrs	80/6 chaps
5/5/14	PA	Beach Eco	3	6G/12yrs	60/4 chaps
5/19/14	Smyrna, DE	Beach Disc	1	K/5yrs	28/2 chaps
5/21/14	Wilmington, DE	Beach Eco	3	5G/11 yrs	65/5 chaps
5/22/14	Dover, DE	Beach Disc	1	pK/4 yrs	36/3chaps
5/22/14	Dover, DE	Beach Disc	1	pK/4 yrs	36/3chaps
5/22/14	Dover, DE	Sea+SaltM	2	K/5 yrs	38/3 chaps
5/23/14	Dover, DE	Beach Disc	1	pK/4 yrs	26/2 chaps
5/29/14	Seaford, DE	Beach Eco	3	8G/14yrs	30/3 chaps
5/29/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	K/5yrs	40/3 chaps

6/2/14	DE	Sea+SaltM	2	3G/9yrs	104/8 chaps
6/10/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	pK/4yrs	36/3 chaps
6/23/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	K+1G/5+6yrs	30/3 chaps
6/25/14	DE	Sea+SaltM	2	2G/ yrs	10/1 chap
6/25/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	K/5yrs	10/1 chap
6/25/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	K+1G/5+6yrs	20/2 chaps
6/27/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	K+1G/5+6yrs	20/1 chap
7/17/14	Newark, DE	Beach Disc	1	K-7G/5-13yrs	60/5 chaps
8/14/14	DE	Beach Disc	1	5G/11yrs	23/3 chaps
8/14/14	DE	Beach Eco	3	7-9G/13-15yrs	15/1 chap
9/23/14	DE	Beach Eco	3	5G/11yrs	60/10 chaps
10/20/14	DE	Rockhounds	2	3G/9yrs	80/6 chaps
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>42 Hrs.</b>		<b>1027/86</b>