**DDOE Aquatic Resources Education Center**

**Education Programs**

 ***Available Year-Round***

**AREC: A Behind the Scenes Tour** (All ages): What do fish eat? Do turtles sleep? Find the answers to all your aquatic animal questions with an in-depth tour of the AREC with one of our biologists. Students will tour the facility and participate in a question and answer session with a biologist. (30-60 minutes)

**Pre-K Story Hour** (Pre-K): Students will explore the AREC on a guided tour and learn about the aquatic animals of Washington, DC through a story, craft and hands-on meet and greet of one of AREC’s resident animals. (45 minutes-1 hour)

**One Fish, Two Fish** (Kindergarten): Why does a turtle have a shell? Why don’t fish have shells? Students will use their senses to explore the similarities and differences of the aquatic life in Washington, DC. (1 hour)

**Who Lives Where?** (1st grade): Do the same animals live in Rock Creek and the Potomac River? Find out! Students will investigate the different aquatic habitats in Washington, DC and compare and contrast the aquatic life found within those habitats. (1 hour)

**Amazing Adaptations** (2nd grade): What is an adaptation? How are aquatic animals able to survive? Students will explore the adaptations of aquatic animals found in Washington, DC and use what they learn to create their very own aquatic animal. (1 hour) Can be combined with Fantastic Food Webs.

**Fantastic Food Webs** (2nd grade): What does a long nose gar eat? Or a crab? Find out! Students will explore the food webs found in the Chesapeake Bay. (1 hour) Can be combined with Amazing Adaptations.

**Fishing Clinic** (2nd grade and up): Let’s go fishing! Students will learn the principles of basic spin casting and ethical angling. Students will practice casting and, weather permitting, fish in the Anacostia. (1.5-2 hours)

**Who am I?** (3rd grade): What is that animal? A fish, turtle or something else entirely? Students will learn the characteristics of different animal classifications. Students will also investigate the process of metamorphosis using amphibians and blue crabs as models. (1-1.5 hours)

**Fantastic Fish** (3rd-6th grade): What makes a fish a fish? Where are fish found? How do they move? Students will answer these questions and more through games and an interactive scavenger hunt. (1.5-2 hours)

**Walking Through Your Watershed** (3rd-8th grade): What’s the big deal with the Chesapeake Bay? Why should I care about it? Students will investigate the Chesapeake Bay watershed and learn about its importance in our environment and our role in its protection. (1-1.5 hours)

**The Power of Plants** (4th grade): Do plants live in the water? Students will learn the role of plants in aquatic systems and their benefits to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. (1-1.5 hours)

**CSI: Anacostia River** (7th grade and up): Forget Las Vegas, Miami and New York, we have a mystery in our own backyard: Where have all the fish gone? Students will put their STEM skills to the test as they investigate the mystery of the declining fish populations in the Anacostia and Potomac rivers.

**Macroinvertebrate Mayhem** (6th grade and up): Students will learn about aquatic macroinvertebrates and their value in determining the health of a stream. (seasonal)