



**-- PRESS RELEASE --**

**Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council Releases a New Edition of  
*"Down Where the Water Is: A Coastal Awareness Activity Book"***

**Related Interpretative Programs Available Free To Rhode Island Students  
In K-3 Classrooms**

After more than 25 years of use in Rhode Island classrooms, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has released new editions of *Down Where the Water Is: A Coastal Awareness Activity Book* and an associated comprehensive Teacher's Guide.

Produced for the CRMC by the University of Rhode Island's Office of Marine Programs, the Activity Book and Teacher's Guide have been designed for use in grades K-3 to foster awareness of the coast and shoreline issues, and are available **FREE** from the CRMC.

To order copies of the Activity Book and Teacher's Guide please contact the CRMC by telephone at (401) 783-3370, or send a written request (including email or telephone contact info) to:

Coastal Resources Management Council,  
Stedman Government Center, Suite 3  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-190  
ATTN: Teachers Guide and Activity Books

The CRMC will attempt to accommodate all requests from Rhode Island K-3 classroom and homeschool teachers. However, the number of books may be limited by availability.

You can also download the Activity Book and Teacher's Guide as PDF files by following the links at the CRMC's website [www.crmc.ri.gov](http://www.crmc.ri.gov).

Also available are **FREE Interpretative Programs** for your Rhode Island K-3 Classroom, from the University of Rhode Island's Office of Marine Programs. To book a FREE Interpretative Program, contact URI's Narragansett Bay Classroom at 401-874-6211.

Programs are offered in schools or at URI's Coastal Institute Visitor Center. Schools may book one or two free programs, maximum 30 per group. If booking two programs, they must be scheduled for the same morning or afternoon. Bookings for the limited number of FREE programs are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The schedule is subject to instructor availability. Additional programs will be charged at the regular Interpretative Program rates of \$90 for Coastal Institute Visitor Center programs and \$125 for on-site programs.

Additionally, *Down Where the Water Is Activity Kits* are now available for loan. The kits contain all of the materials necessary to perform the activity. To check-out a Down Where the Water Is Activity Kit, please call URI's Narragansett Bay Classroom (401-874-6211) and arrange a time to pick-up an Activity Kit. Activity kits may be checked out for a fee of \$5 per kit (with an additional \$10 deposit which will be returned at the time of kit check-in) and are made available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **INTERPRETATIVE PROGRAM AND KIT TOPICS**

### Create a Fish (Kit #34)

In this activity, students explore adaptations of fish to various habitats. Several examples, including strategies for eating and defense, are discussed. Students are then encouraged to create and describe their own fish to live in a habitat of their choice.

### Sink or Float (Kit #35)

In this activity, students will make and test hypotheses about whether an object is going to sink or float. After categorizing the objects by their ability to sink or float, children will discuss what properties contribute to putting an object in one category or the other.

### Fisher Kids (Kit # 36)

In this activity, students will "fish" for objects of different sizes, using three different sizes of net mesh. They will be asked to record data on which nets caught which items, and to share and discuss those data with the class. The children will use these data to help them understand that different fishing methods are used to catch different types of fish, but we still sometimes catch unintended organisms.

### Rocky Shore Adaptations (Kit #37)

Using several tools, students will mimic the feeding activity of different tidepool animals. Through this activity, students will study how animals' feeding adaptations increase the potential for their survival.

### Sand (Kit # 38)

Sand can be made of many different materials - it doesn't have to be mineral or rock in origin. What we call sand is really just a range of particle sizes. If a particle is between 2 millimeters and 20 micrometers in size, it is classified as sand. In this activity, students will look at sand from several different locations. They will learn about the origin of sand and investigate some of its properties.

## ADDITIONAL KITS

### Density (Kit # 39)

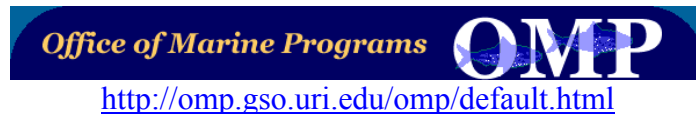
Density plays an important role in the form and circulation of estuaries. Fresh river water coming in from shore tends to lie on top of the more dense salt water from the sea. This kit provides the materials necessary to demonstrate this phenomenon.

### Tides (Kit # 40)

This kit contains two activities designed to help children understand ocean tides. In the first activity, students are guided through a physical demonstration of tides, focusing on the movements of the Earth and moon. The second activity complements the first by demonstrating the role of gravity in creating tides. After completing these activities, students should understand that the gravitational pull of the moon makes the tides rise by pulling on the side of the Earth that is facing the moon.

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For more information and resources on environmental educational, please check out the URI Office of Marine Programs Narragansett Bay Classroom website:



and the Coastal Resources Management Council's website:



<http://www.crmc.ri.gov/links/index.html> or <http://www.crmc.ri.gov/education/index.html>