

Help Sample The Sea

UC Santa Barbara Researchers Seek Teachers For Pilot Program To Teach Students About Seafood And Ocean Sustainability

DigitalOcean: Sampling the Sea is a multi-disciplinary ocean science education and social networking initiative based at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Sampling the Sea involves middle and high school students in 200 classrooms around the world in sharing information about declining global fish populations and implications for humans and oceans. Students will collect and share data, images, and stories about seafood choices in their communities and learn how these choices affect the health of the world's oceans. The goal of the project is to engage the next generation of consumers in a global dialogue about the interrelationships among human customs, regulatory laws, fishing practices, wildlife management, and the future of the sea.

UC Santa Barbara organizations participating in the project are the Carsey-Wolf Center for Film, Television, and New Media, the Marine Science Institute, and the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management. Partner organizations include the New Media Research Institute, Google Ocean, NASA GLOBE, and ePals. Support for *Sampling the Sea* is provided by a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

About the Pilot Project

We seek middle and high school teachers and students in English-speaking classrooms around the world to participate in *Sampling the Sea*'s spring 2010 pilot project. Participating teachers will receive curriculum guides, exercises, online training and support to help them implement the program. Curriculum modules will be flexible, and teachers can individually determine how much time they spend on in-class activities (from as little as three days to intermittently over three months). For the pilot project, students collect data and complete simple questionnaires about seafood



eaten in their communities. They upload their findings into an online data base that integrates them with those from other participating classrooms. Findings will be visually displayed in graphs and other representations illustrating seafood sustainability issues and the hazards facing the ocean. Students will also be able to share photos and stories from their research, and discuss possible solutions with students from classrooms in other regions or countries of the world through a secure social networking system.

How to Get Involved

For more information about how you can participate in *DigitalOcean: Sampling the Sea*, please visit our website http://www.cftnm.ucsb.edu/Programs/EMI/Research/SS_teacher_recruitment.html. Here you can read more about the project, review the frequently asked questions (FAQ) section and apply online. For additional information please contact Cathy Boggs at cboggs@cftnm.ucsb.edu or Julie Robinson at jrobinson@bren.ucsb.edu.

