Students will join one of our expert educators through live video conferencing in an inquiry-based discussion about a topic of your choosing. Using visual props and multimedia resources, students will utilize their creativity and critical thinking to explore the ocean. Core competencies in critical thinking, communication, creative thinking, and responsibility may be achieved through the Virtual Aquaclass Program. Big Ideas differ per grade.

All programs are $90 per 45 minutes long sessions, and include a Q&A time between students and our expert staff.

Choose from our wide variety of programs. This program is customizable upon request* to address specific interest and needs of each group. All programs are available in English or French.

*Additional costs may be required for customizations

For more information, curriculum connections, or to book your program, please visit vanaqua.org/education

Any questions? Contact us at online.learning@ocean.org
**The Wild West Coast**  
**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**  
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary  
Explore how animals are able to survive and thrive in the cold dark waters of Canada’s west coast. Meet some incredible invertebrates and examine how their unique adaptations make them successful in their environment. Explore how humans have a role to play in this important ecosystem, and why the ocean is important for every part of our daily lives.

**Welcome to the Marine Jungle**  
**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**  
Intermediate, Secondary  
Deep in the jungle of South America, there is the Amazon River, home to a wide diversity of freshwater aquatic life. Set in front of a Flooded River ecosystem, students will be amazed and engaged in this unique program all about what lives in tropical fresh water. Living in tropical freshwater is no easy feat, and in this program we will focus on the challenges a fish faces when living in tropical fresh water.

**Coral Reefs: Nature’s Jungle Gym**  
**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**  
Intermediate, Secondary  
The health of the ocean depends on its foundation, and coral reefs are the one of the most important, and most threatened, building blocks for the ocean. In this program, students will learn about the diversity of life found in tropical waters, and how it is all connected through the delicate balance of food webs and predator-prey relationships.

**Inside Nature’s Creatures**  
**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**  
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary  
Students will be introduced to the phyla Cephalopoda and the key characteristics that make this group of squids, octopuses, and cuttlefish so spectacular by joining our expert educator for a live squid dissection. Through an examination of the squid’s anatomy students will discuss how an animal’s adaptation helps them to survive in their environment.  
*Dissection specimen may differ based on availability*

**Introducing Jaws**  
**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**  
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary  
One of the most successful and misunderstood fish in the sea, Sharks have survived for over 400 million years thanks to their incredible adaptations. They are found all over the world, and at every level of the food chain. Challenge misconceptions and discover with your students the wide diversity of sharks. Learn why they are important for the ocean, and how our choices affect the survival of sharks all around the world.

**Arctic Adaptations**  
**RECOMMENDED GRADES:**  
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary  
The Arctic is one of the most extreme environments on the planet, and home to a diversity of arctic survivalists who are adapted for these intense conditions. Explore some of these incredible animals and the unique characteristics they have that enable them to survive and possibly thrive in the unique Arctic conditions. Students will explore how these animals may be affected by the changing climate and human impact on life all around the planet – even in the seemingly untouchable Arctic.
2020 FEATURE PROGRAMS

These programs have limited availability and French restrictions may apply.

Deep Sea
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

How deep is deep? Well the deepest place in the ocean we know of is about 11 km (36,200 ft) deep! How do animals survive in the dark and under high pressure? How do they hunt? What do they eat? Explore cool facts of the deep sea and learn about the adaptations of the sea creatures inside with an Ocean Wise Educator. Participants will discuss the importance of ocean exploration and ways for citizens to help uncover the ocean mysteries.

Camouflage
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate

Now you see me, now you don’t! Camouflage is an important survival strategy employed by animals on all levels of the food chain. Explore the different strategies that animals use to camouflage into their environment in order to survive. Students will come to understand that animals come in all different shapes, sizes and colours, and these differences make animals successful in their environment.

Wonderful World of Butterflies
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate

It’s a bird, it’s a plane... it’s a butterfly! Welcome to the world of butterflies to explore the life cycle of these unique creatures. How do they stay safe? What do they eat? Why are they so colourful? Join an Ocean Wise Educator to explore the mysterious world of butterflies and see how you can help these animals in need.

Careers In Conservation
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

Ocean Conservation thrives when a variety of perspectives, disciplines, and life experiences work together. Join our Ocean Wise educator at the Vancouver Aquarium to chat with a mentor who contributes their skills to ocean conservation in the fields of graphic and exhibit design, food services, aquarist, interpretation, animal husbandry, or engineering.

Penguin Program
RECOMMENDED GRADE:
Primary

What’s black, and white, and waddles about? Penguins of course! Join an Ocean Wise Educator to explore a day in the life of a penguin and the unique adaptations that make these birds so special. Discuss key conservation threats that penguins face, and how our daily actions can impact their future.

Jellies
RECOMMENDED GRADES:
Primary, Intermediate, Secondary

Heartless, brainless, and have survived for 500 million year, jellies are slow swimming, invertebrates that can be both a nuisance and necessary to aquatic ecosystems. Learn about survival adaptations, jellies versus jellyfish, how humans are connected to their survival and what we can learn from jellies. But wait, are jellies taking over the ocean? Find out with our Ocean Wise Educator!