

The Ocean In Motion: Marine Science Education Program

Thank you for your interest in SDOF and Disney's 'Give a Day, Get a Day' program! Our Ocean In Motion: Summer Snorkeling Season is currently on hold through the winter (while waters are a bit chillier than normal). We have, however, added you to our system and will contact you once we start conducting orientations again in May. Since you're interested in snorkeling/diving activities, we have included information regarding our Reef Monitoring Project (in case you'd like to start volunteering before summer). Please take a look and let us know if you have ANY questions.

Note: If volunteering for our Reef Monitoring Project, each participant must be 12 years of age or older and complete at least one survey to be eligible for the 'Give a Day, Get a Day' promotion.

Thanks and we look forward to working with you soon!

For far too long, our oceans have been contaminated by urban run-off. Marine populations have been commercially overfished for years and coastal development has caused habitat destruction all across the globe. Finally, Marine Protected Areas (areas of coastal ocean that are set aside and protected from extractive uses) have made their way into the spotlight...and you have a chance to help maintain them!

The [Reef Monitoring Project](#) is a partnership between the San Diego Oceans Foundation and REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation). SDOF trains local divers and snorkelers in the identification of a variety of fish and invertebrate species that call Southern California 'home'. Then, volunteers go diving or snorkeling, search for as many species as possible and record their relative abundance. The information 'Reefers' collect is then entered into a publicly accessible database on [REEF's website](#). Here, it can be used by the general public, fisheries management agencies or may even influence the management of Marine Protected Areas in Southern California. Just imagine YOUR survey helping to protect the ocean you love!

2010 Reef Monitoring Schedule

Sunday, January 24th | 8 AM – 11 AM | Reef Monitoring Adventure Day (La Jolla Shores)

Thursday, February 11th | 6 PM – 9 PM | Invertebrate/Algae Identification Course

Thursday, March 11th | 6 PM – 8:30 PM (Level 2); 8:35 PM – 10 PM (Level 3) | Fish Identification Course

Sunday, April 25th | 8 AM – 11 AM | Reef Monitoring Adventure Day (La Jolla Cove)

Wednesday, May 12th | 6 PM – 9 PM | Invertebrate/Algae Identification Course

Wednesday, June 16th | 6 PM – 8:30 PM (Level 2); 8:35 PM – 10 PM (Level 3) | Fish Identification Course

Saturday, July 10th | 8 AM – 11 AM | The Great Annual Fish Count (Mission Point)

Thursday, August 5th | 6 PM – 9 PM | Invertebrate/Algae Identification Course

Wednesday, September 8th | 6 PM – 8:30 PM (Level 2); 8:35 PM – 10 PM (Level 3) | Fish Identification Course

Sunday, October 17th | 8 AM – 11 AM | Reef Monitoring Adventure Day (Marine Room)

Wednesday, November 10th | 6 PM – 9 PM | Invertebrate/Algae Identification Course

Thursday, December 2nd | 6 PM – 8:30 PM (Level 2); 8:35 PM – 10 PM (Level 3) | Fish Identification Course

Note: Level 4/5 Tests are completed by appointment only.

* Also, check out our [Introductory REEF Dives w/ Herb](#) on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month!

REEF Certification Levels

Level 1 (All new REEF members – No surveys or tests required)

Level 2 (Beginning Surveyor) 80% on Most Common Fishes/Invertebrates Quiz (20/30 species); 2 surveys

Level 3 (Advanced Surveyor) 80% on Most Common Fishes Quiz (50 species); 25 surveys

Level 4 (Expert Surveyor) 90% on Most Common Fishes Quiz (60 species); 35 surveys

Level 5 (Expert Surveyor) 95% on Most Common Fishes & Invertebrates Quiz (100 species); 50 surveys

All identification courses (taught with PowerPoint presentations) **are held at Ocean Enterprises** (7710 Balboa Ave, SD 92121). Please RSVP to volunteer@sdoceans.org in order to attend.

If you haven't done so already, please take a moment to fill out SDOF's [Volunteer Application](#) (one per adult) so we can learn more about you. **Note:** All volunteers are required to complete and return either a [dive](#) or [snorkeling](#) waiver prior to getting in the water (which can be dropped off or mailed to our office – originals required).

The ocean has the ability to recover if we act now!
