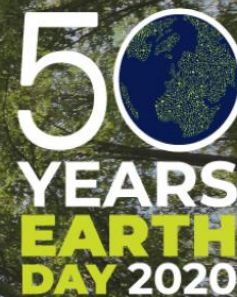


AQUARIUMS

Earth Day 2020
Menu of Engagement



Aquariums are engaging spaces that provide people of all ages to have an immersive experience in the exploration of our world's oceans. Aquariums are in the unique position to promote conservation through experiential learning. These experiences help to create a sense of understanding as well as stewardship, inspiring further education and action. For **Earth Day's 50th anniversary**, utilize your aquarium to engage your community in a variety of fun, educational and impactful learning opportunities!

2020 Program Engagement Ideas

Global Teach-In

The first Earth Day hosted a nationwide [teach-in](#) for communities to learn about and discuss local environmental issues. Host an event on a 2020 campaign or Earth Challenge topic;

- Biodiversity loss
- Whales
- Coral Reefs
- Sea Turtles
- Plastic Pollution
- Endangered Species
- Water Quality
- Local climate change impacts
- Show environmental documentaries and provide a panel discussion or Q&A
- Host a speaker series on local environmental issues
- Provide workshops for students on marine science careers

End Plastic Pollution

[Plastic](#) is a huge part of our daily lives, but there are tons of great alternatives to use to help the planet! Aquariums can host events for the [Great Global Cleanup](#).

- Host a beach or river cleanup for the Great Global Cleanup
- Host a grocery bag repurposing workshop
- Host a teach-in on the impacts on plastic pollution on ecosystems
- Organize community research opportunities on micro-plastic impacts
- Ban or replace single use plastics in your facility
- Provide recycling bins and instructional signs

Register your event at EarthDay.org

Artists for the Earth

[Art](#) is a powerful tool to communicate messages, trigger emotions and inspire action! Invite your community to participate in one of these activities;

- Invite artists to create pieces for visiting or new exhibits
- Host an eco-friendly dress-up party as marine organisms
- Host a student essay or poetry contest
- Plan an art workshop to make animal portraits using plant dyes
- Practice yoga with animals and embrace their natural beauty
- Paint a mural in the community

Food and Climate

Only one thing can make communities coming together to learn even more enticing...[FOOD](#)! Host an event to bring people together to learn about the impacts of our food system and learn about delicious plant-based alternatives.

- Host a catering event and promote vegetarian/vegan options
- Organize a plant-based potluck
- Host a teach-in on climate change and provide sustainably sourced food and drinks
- Provide composting bins and host a composting workshop
- Implement meatless Mondays and offer more plant-based options in food stations

Protect Our Species

[Countless species](#) on Earth are threatened by human development. A balanced ecosystem is dependent on all species to fully function! Use your aquarium to help people connect with local species and ones around the world.

- Share a monthly call for action on endangered and threatened species
- Lead an aquarium tour and highlight the connections between various species
- Host a teach-in on water quality impacts on local species
- Organize a sleepover night with animals
- Host a seminar series on different species threatened by climate change
- Create a series of trainings for junior marine biologists

Earth Challenge 2020

Citizen science is an amazing way for global citizens to contribute to valuable scientific research. Aquariums can support [Earth Challenge](#) by serving as a community hub for people to collect data.

- Serve as an Earth Challenge site where people can come to with Earth Challenge (citizen science) questions
- Provide materials and resources like tablets to collect, enter and review data
- Help participants with data analysis
- Organize Earth Challenge data collection days and events

Register your event at EarthDay.org