

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER

Grade 11&12 Teachers using the National Standards

Dear Eleventh and Twelfth Grade Teachers using the National Standards,

Thank you for considering bringing your students to the Dolphin Research Center. We have a variety of educational opportunities available to you and they are all listed on our website. However, just coming on site allows you to meet a variety of educational standards that are a part of your educational curriculum.

We have narrated sessions and theater presentations all day long. Attending these sessions will meet many of the Common Core English Language Arts Standards (CC-ELA) for speaking and listening including:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.1** Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 11-12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. A. Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas. B. Work with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and deadlines, and establish individual roles as needed. C. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives. D. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; resolve contradictions when possible; and determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.4** Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, alternative or opposing perspectives are addressed, and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and a range of formal and informal tasks.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Additionally we have educational signs stationed throughout the grounds. These signs alone can meet many of the CC-ELA related to the reading of informational text. Such as:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.1** Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.2** Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and



build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.4** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.5** Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.

In addition to meeting the CC-ELA our narrations and signs also provide information that is related to the following Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

- **HS-LS2-7.** Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.
- **HS-LS2-8.** Evaluate the evidence for the role of group behavior on individual and species' chances to survive and reproduce.
- **HS-LS3-1.** Ask questions to clarify relationships about the role of DNA and chromosomes in coding the instructions for characteristic traits passed from parents to offspring.
- **HS-LS4-5.** Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in: (1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.
- **HS-ESS3-2.** Evaluate competing design solutions for developing, managing, and utilizing energy and mineral resources based on cost-benefit ratios.*
- **HS-ESS3-4.** Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.*
- **Scientific Investigations Use a Variety of Methods.** Science investigations use diverse methods and do not always use the same set of procedures to obtain data. Scientific inquiry is characterized by a common set of values that include: logical thinking, precision, open-mindedness, objectivity, skepticism, replicability of results, and honest and ethical reporting of findings. The discourse practices of science are organized around disciplinary domains that share exemplars for making decisions regarding the values, instruments, methods, models, and evidence to adopt and use. Scientific investigations use a variety of methods, tools, and techniques to revise and produce new knowledge.
- **Science is a Human Endeavor** Scientific knowledge is a result of human endeavor, imagination, and creativity. We thank you for your consideration and sincerely hope that you will take the time to bring your students to visit our dolphins in our wonderful naturalistic classroom!

You may opt to have students take what they have learned here and apply it to a research project (informational or persuasive) back at your school, allowing for the integration of



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additional writing standards. You may find a detailed list of these standards by visiting the grade appropriate standards letter for states using the CC-ELA and NGSS.

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Dolphin Research Center Education Team

