

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER

Distance: Marine Mammal Training

Grades: 9-12

Concepts Addressed:

- Discover a dolphin's unique personality and explore and understand the concepts of how and why we train animals and the importance of building strong, trusting relationships
- Discover principles behind Operant Conditioning and how we use it with our dolphins
 - What is operant conditioning?
 - Positive stimulus: conditioned and unconditioned reinforcers
 - Non reinforcement
- Observe & Review Training Techniques/Tools and Applications
 - Bridging
 - Behavior Chains
 - Symbols
 - Target poles/targeting
 - Pinger
- Observe & Discuss Methods of Training
 - Direct Manipulation
 - Opportunistic Training
 - Modeling
 - Shaping (approximations)
- Discover Careers with Marine Mammals
 - What are the typical pathways for a career in training
- Marine Mammal Conservation
 - Why understanding animal training helps us better understand dolphins in the wild
 - Natural & human caused threats in the wild
 - Conservation efforts you can do at home to help dolphins and your environment
- Participate in a question and answer session at the end to get at those "always wanted to know" questions.

Standards:

Florida

Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science met or supported:

- **SC.912.N.1.1** Define a problem based on a specific body of knowledge, for example: biology, chemistry, physics, and earth/space science, and do the following:



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Pose questions about the natural world, (Articulate the purpose of the investigation and identify the relevant scientific concepts). Conduct systematic observations, (Write procedures that are clear and replicable. Identify observables and examine relationships between test (independent) variable and outcome (dependent) variable. Employ appropriate methods for accurate and consistent observations; conduct and record measurements at appropriate levels of precision. Follow safety guidelines). Examine books and other sources of information to see what is already known, Review what is known in light of empirical evidence, (Examine whether available empirical evidence can be interpreted in terms of existing knowledge and models, and if not, modify or develop new models). Plan investigations, (Design and evaluate a scientific investigation). Use tools to gather, analyze, and interpret data (this includes the use of measurement in metric and other systems, and also the generation and interpretation of graphical representations of data, including data tables and graphs), (Collect data or evidence in an organized way. Properly use instruments, equipment, and materials (e.g., scales, probeware, meter sticks, microscopes, computers) including set-up, calibration, technique, maintenance, and storage). Pose answers, explanations, or descriptions of events, Generate explanations that explicate or describe natural phenomena (inferences), Use appropriate evidence and reasoning to justify these explanations to others, Communicate results of scientific investigations, and Evaluate the merits of the explanations produced by others.

Florida Standards for Social Studies- Psychology

- **SS.912.P.7.5** Describe the principles of operant conditioning.
- **SS.912.P.7.6** Describe clinical and experimental examples of operant conditioning
- **SS.912.P.7.7** Apply operant conditioning to everyday life.

Language Arts Florida Standards

- **LAFS.910.SL.1.1** Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9–10 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 set rules for collegial discussions and decision-making (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views), clear goals and deadlines, and individual roles as needed. c. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions. d. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views and



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understanding and make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.

- **LAFS.910.SL.2.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.
- **LAFS.1112.SL.1.1** 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.
- **LAFS.1112.SL.2.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate

National Standards met:

Common Core Standards for English Language Arts met or supported:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1** Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 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 set rules for collegial discussions and decision-making (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views), clear goals and deadlines, and individual roles as needed. C. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions. D. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or



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- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grades 9-10 Language standards 1 and 3 here for specific expectations.)
- **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.11-12.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Next Generation Science Standards

- **HS-LS4-6.** Create or revise a simulation to test a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.
- **HS-LS2-7.** Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.

Ocean Literacy Principles met:

- **5A** Ocean life ranges in size from the smallest living things, microbes, to the largest animal on Earth, blue whales.
- **5D** Ocean biology provides many unique examples of life cycles, adaptations, and important relationships among organisms (symbiosis, predator-prey dynamics, and energy transfer) that do not occur on land.
- **5E** The ocean provides a vast living space with diverse and unique ecosystems from the surface through the water column and down to, and below, the seafloor. Most of the living space on Earth is in the ocean.
- **6D** Humans affect the ocean in a variety of ways. Laws, regulations, and resource management affect what is taken out and put into the ocean. Human development and activity leads to pollution (point source, nonpoint source, and noise pollution), changes



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to ocean chemistry (ocean acidification), and physical modifications (changes to beaches, shores, and rivers). In addition, humans have removed most of the large vertebrates from the ocean.

- **6G** Everyone is responsible for caring for the ocean. The ocean sustains life on Earth and humans must live in ways that sustain the ocean. Individual and collective actions are needed to effectively manage ocean resources for all.

Other state standards upon request

