Dear Florida Third Grade Teachers,

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 Language Arts Florida Standards (LAFS) for speaking and listening including:

- **LAFS.3.SL.1.1** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.  
  a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.  
  b. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).  
  c. Ask questions to check understanding of information presented, stay on topic, and link their comments to the remarks of others.  
  d. Explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

- **LAFS.3.SL.1.2** Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

- **LAFS.3.SL.1.3** Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.

- **LAFS.3.SL.2.4** Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

- **LAFS.3.SL.2.6** Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

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

- **LAFS.3.RI.1.2** Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

- **LAFS.3.RI.1.3** Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.

- **LAFS.3.RI.2.4** Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.
• **LAFS.3.RI.3.7** Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

In addition to meeting the LAFS our narrations and signs also provide information that is related to the following Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science (NGSSS):

- **SC.3.L.14.1** Describe structures in plants and their roles in food production, support, water and nutrient transport, and reproduction.

- **SC.3.L.15.1** Classify animals into major groups (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, arthropods, vertebrates and invertebrates, those having live births and those which lay eggs) according to their physical characteristics and behaviors.

- **SC.3.N.1.4** Recognize the importance of communication among scientists.

- **SC.3.N.1.5** Recognize that scientists question, discuss, and check each others’ evidence and explanations.

- **SC.3.N.1.7** Explain that empirical evidence is information, such as observations or measurements, that is used to help validate explanations of natural phenomena.

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 additional writing standards. You may find a detailed list of these standards by visiting the grade appropriate standards letter for the state of Florida.

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!

Dolphin Research Center Education Team