



Evaluation Summary

-  90% of student participants strongly agreed or agreed that they know more about the ocean and its ecosystems than they did prior to attending the Ocean for Life program.
-  93% of student participants strongly agreed or agreed that they learned about different methods of ocean conservation and stewardship that they feel comfortable sharing with their community.
-  94% of student participants strongly agreed or agreed that they learned information that will help them during their outreach and future projects.
-  95% of student participants strongly agreed or agreed that the cultural exchange activities helped them to learn about their fellow participants and gave them the opportunity to teach others more about their culture.
-  After their experience with the Ocean for Life program, 95% of student participants are very likely or somewhat likely to continue working with other Ocean for Life students on outreach and other collaborative projects.



Ocean for Life Alumni Testimonial

Field Study Students Share their Insights





◀ **Sarah Boulhane, Morocco**

With so many different religions and perspectives, we all learned in a short period of time to respect each other. I would even go further and say LOVE each other.

Natividad Chen, Canada ▶

Ocean for Life was a very different program than the typical "science camp" that I expected. I initially believed that the program would focus on the ocean and the current research on its biology and its conservation. I quickly realized, however, it was very much more a chance to learn about different cultures and the power of media in the context of ocean conservation. It was an intense eye-opening and heart-opening experience.

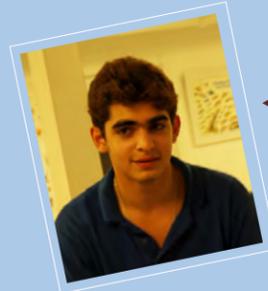


◀ **Aya Toubar, Egypt**

The Ocean for Life program taught me lots of things, but the most important thing is how to live or act with each other because we are all friends living in one world, one ocean, without any difference.

Morgan Liston, United States ▶

Just as biodiversity is important to the ocean, cultural diversity is important to our earth. We truly are one world, one ocean, one family, and we must act now.



◀ **Syed Shah, Pakistan**

I will tell my people and country not to pollute water and protect life of [the] marine [environment] as [much] as they can.

Karissa Vincent, United States ▶

I learned from Ocean for Life that the world is all interconnected, and everything is the same, and we're all trying to come together to create something that will bring this world to a better place than it is right now.



◀ **Mohammed Alawadhi, Bahrain**

My experience here was something special. I learned about other people. I learned about what's in their heart.

Valerie Morel, United States ▶

I learned that we must all work together to save our ocean. Even though we come from different countries, speak different languages, have different customs and different religions, we are all the same. We all depend on the ocean. We must work together to save [it].



A Selection of Ocean for Life Alumni Achievements

- The Ocean for Life program has confirmed Elisabeth Boeck's (of California) commitment to continue studying Arabic and the culture of the Middle East, along with pursuing her degree in environmental science and international relations at Northwestern University in Illinois.
- Wiame El Bouhali of Morocco petitioned her neighborhood to start recycling, as well as initiated the first environmental club at her high school. She is now attending Smith College in Massachusetts.
- Jacob Winnikoff of California has put his passion into action by creating an after-school program called Blue Planet Outreach Project that engages elementary school students in learning about ocean science.
- Shaizal Sohail, Humaira Saeed, Syed Shah and Sanan ul-Hasnain of Pakistan made a Ocean for Life and environmental stewardship presentation to the Ministry of the Environment, as well as planted over 75 tree saplings at their schools.
- Emily Goldstein of Kentucky has given numerous presentations about her Ocean for Life experience to groups, such as the Environmental Educator's Committee of the Partnership for a Green City, Louisville Zoo and Kentucky Association of Environmental Educators. She has also studied orca whales in British Columbia, Canada, serving as a mentor for students from around the world, including Japan and France, and has been to the Arctic twice.
- Inspired by Ocean for Life, Natividad Chen of Canada has studied Introductory Arabic at Brown University in Rhode Island, and contributes short videos for her professor's NSF-funded science blog Creaturecast.org. She also has a paper titled "The Importance of Climate Literacy" published in a Brown University science magazine titled "The Catalyst."
- Tamrynn Clegg and Abigail Huvad of California applied to have their high schools become Ocean Guardian Schools and were granted funding by NOAA to carry out projects to support ocean conservation.
- Omar Mansour of Jordan studied how to reduce the amount of energy used in his school buildings in Amman and how to improve efficiency and promote conservation of electricity and water.
- Alexis Mukaida of Hawai'i organized an environmental awareness club at her school that aims to reduce their carbon footprint and shares this information through presentations to other schools.
- Grace S. Park of Wisconsin plans to expand or start a student organization on the campus of University of Chicago in Illinois involving ocean biology, ecology and global initiative. She also hopes to include Shedd Aquarium in this work.



◀ **Samaah Jaffer, Canada**

I have learned that although we come in a variety of shapes, sizes and social norms, on the inside, we are all the same.

Suzanna Hopkins, United States ▶

This program has put a fire in my heart to save our ocean.

◀ **Mohammed Almarzoog, Saudi Arabia**

Meeting people from other cultures has taught me that you will not know how things look until you come closer to them.

