SUMMER ADVENTURES
ON THE ROAD

Where Are We Going?
DID YOU KNOW?

The section of California’s coastal waters known as Monterey Bay was designated a national marine sanctuary in 1992 to protect its rich ecosystems, including diverse animal and plant life. The bay’s tide pools, lush kelp forests, and steep canyons host wildlife from tiny shrimp to giant blue whales.

The bay is home to mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates. Some of these animals are full-time residents, while others, including migratory whale species like the humpback, live in the bay only part of the time. Scientists have identified dozens of mammal species and hundreds of varieties of fish in the sanctuary. These and numerous birds and other animals depend on the bay’s cool waters for sustenance and, in some cases, protection. Animals from several endangered species spend all or part of their lives in the sanctuary.
**DAY ON THE BAY**

**ACTIVITY | Ages 4-8**

Whales are some of the biggest and most fascinating animals in the ocean. Several kinds of whale frequent Monterey Bay. You can see gray whales traveling close to shore during annual migrations from Alaska to breeding grounds in Baja California and back. Blue whales are found in the sanctuary in summer and fall. You can also see dolphins as they speed through the bay. In this activity you are on a virtual (or real!) trip onto the bay to spot whales and dolphins. But you must first know what you are seeing through your binoculars. Is it a whale or a dolphin? What kind?

1. Study the whale and dolphin pictures at Monterey Bay Aquarium: Life on the Bay.
2. Write the number of the description next to the matching species.

**SPECIES**

A. ______ sperm whale - very rare sighting!
B. ______ short-beaked common dolphin
C. ______ humpback whale
D. ______ orca
E. ______ blue whale
F. ______ Risso's dolphin

**DESCRIPTION**

1. This giant has knobby-looking bumps called “tubercles” on its fins and head.
2. This often-scarred creature has the scientific name *Grampus griseus*.
3. This cetacean seems to be dressed for a party in its tuxedo.
4. It’s the largest animal there is!
5. Look for a bulging head and an off-center blowhole.
6. A yellowish streak characterizes this jumper known for its “hourglass” pattern.
WHAT TO DO?
ACTIVITY  |  Ages 4-8

MATERIALS
Device with internet connection (optional)

TO DO
Visitors to Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary have lots of choices of what to do. Imagine you are planning a weekend in Monterey to explore the sanctuary. Click on the links below to learn more about each activity and choose what you would like to do - in the morning and afternoon - on each day of your virtual (or real trip). Describe or illustrate them in the trip planner on the following page.

ACTIVITIES:
- Go scuba diving or snorkeling
- Picnic in Big Sur
- Go paddleboarding
- Bike a scenic trail
- Go kayaking
- Be a citizen scientist!
- Hike Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail
- Observe California sea lions from Coast Guard Pier
- Visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium
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**Trip Planner: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**
PLAN YOUR TRIP

ACTIVITY | 9+

In planning your visit to Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, you may wish to research its history and features. Did you know, for example, that the sanctuary spans 276 miles of shoreline along the California coast?

MATERIALS
Device with internet connectivity (optional)

TO DO
Visitors to the sanctuary have lots of choices of what to see and do. Click on the links below to learn more about different activities to do and plan a five-day visit to Monterey to explore the sanctuary. Describe or illustrate your schedule in the trip planner on the following page.

ACTIVITIES
• Go scuba diving or snorkeling
• Picnic in Big Sur
• Pick up plastic pollution along the beaches
• Bike a scenic trail
• Go kayaking

RESOURCES
› Monterey Bay Aquarium
› History of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary | NOAA
› Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network
› The City of Monterey, California

• Be a citizen scientist!
• Hike Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail
• Observe sea lions from Coast Guard Pier
• Visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium
• What other ideas do you have?
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WILD SPACES
ACTIVITY  |  9+

A sanctuary is a place that provides safety and protection. In 1992 Monterey Bay was designated a national marine sanctuary to protect its unique ecosystems and the animals and plants that live and thrive there. Explore Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and its wild spaces while considering the role of sanctuaries on the planet.

MATERIALS
Device with internet connection

TO DO
1. Look at a map to locate the sanctuary. It extends off the coast of California roughly from San Francisco to Cambria.
   - How many miles does the sanctuary extend along the California coast?
   - What are some of the land and ocean formations that make up the bay?
2. To understand the “sanctuary” part of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, view the video One Breath, which tells the history of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary going back millennia. Over clips of seals, filmmaker Bob Talbot notes that humans aren’t “the only free divers in the bay, and definitely not the best.”
3. After viewing the video, discuss with your family or friends the following questions:
   - Which scene in the video did you like best? Why?
   - Which of the animals or plant life in the sanctuary captured your interest? Why?
   - How does the designation of “sanctuary” affect Monterey Bay?
   - What importance do kelp forests and other plant life have in the bay?
   - Can you give an example of animal or plant life in danger of extinction?
   - What are some of the human activities that have affected Monterey Bay?
   - What can people do to coexist better with wildlife?
   - If you could designate a place in the world as a wildlife sanctuary, where would it be?
ANSWERS

PG 3
A. 5
B. 6
C. 1
D. 3
E. 4
F. 2
FULL LINKS

PG 3
Monterey Bay Aquarium: Life on the Bay
https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/visit/exhibits/life-on-the-bay

Whale Surfacing Behavior
https://www.victoriawhalewatching.com/whale-surfacing-behaviors/

PG 4
Go scuba diving or snorkeling

Picnic in Big Sur
https://www.bigsurcalifornia.org/

Go paddleboarding
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QgU6gKd21E

Bike a scenic trail

Go kayaking

Be a citizen scientist
NatGeoEd.org/bioblitz

Hike Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail
https://monterey.org/Services/Parks-and-Beaches/Monterey-Bay-Coastal-Recreation-Trail

Observe California sea lions at Coast Guard Pier
https://www.pgmuseum.org/sealions

Visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium
https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/

PG 6
Monterey Bay Aquarium
https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/

History of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary | NOAA
https://montereybay.noaa.gov/intro/mbnms-history.html

Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network

The City of Monterey, California
https://monterey.org/Services/Harbor-and-Marina/National-Marine-Sanctuary

PG 8
Marine sanctuary
https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/marine-sanctuary/

Map
https://montereybay.noaa.gov/materials/maps.html

One Breath
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9B8NgLbiUvU