

Rocky Shore Field Trip Etiquette and Guidelines

Before going on the trip, remind students how to use the manners they have learned in their rocky shore lessons about treating animals respectfully.

Provide adult volunteers with a list of open-ended questions to help facilitate dialogue during the investigations. Include a field guide to identify common animals found at the rocky shore in the water.

This habitat is reached by a steep and winding trail. If student mobility is of concern, the investigations could be held at an alternate location such as Sunset Bay.

Choose an appropriate tide. Contact OIMB GK12 fellows for assistance in choosing a time.

Stop and read the signs that help students be aware they are not permitted to remove anything from the habitat.

The restrooms at South Cove are at the top of the hill (none at beach level)—a stop before going down is recommended!

If you would like trash containers put out, inform the park office ahead of time.

When you reach the beach area, look to the left. This area is easier to walk on and is a good place for initial exploration and sight seeing.

Children must stay near adults at all times.

Look ahead to where you are going. Choose a gray rock trail whenever possible. This will be the least slippery.

Stay low to the ground. Make three points of contact with the ground to increase stability (e.g. 2 feet one hand); squat when viewing the tide pools.

The rock flipping activity seems to work best if the adult flips over rocks which are on top of other rocks and not deeply stuck into the sand or mud.

Use two hands when turning the rocks over. Be gentle. Watch quickly for the little things scurrying and swimming away. Teeny little animals can often be seen clinging to the rocks. They are not always immediately apparent.

Turn the rock back over and put it in its previous location.

Look for small rocks and big rocks near one another to flip.