

Chaperones are integral to our programs at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.

Your participation is important to ensuring a safe and profitable learning experience for the students while protecting the natural and historical resources.

*You don't need special knowledge to be a chaperone;
just common sense and a willingness to jump in and get involved.*

Here are a few tips to help make your trip a good one:

What will I be doing as a chaperone?

You will supervise a small group of students during the visit, helping them learn, making sure they behave appropriately, and assisting the ranger when called upon. This is especially important when visiting the tide pools where it can be “like kids in a candy store.” The terrain is rocky, uneven, and extremely slippery.

Throughout the day, your job will be to monitor the behavior of your assigned students, provide for their safety, protect park resources, and to facilitate the learning process while ensuring a fun visit for the students.

You will be asked to work with specific students and help guide them through program activities. You may want to ask the teacher for a description and information about the program to familiarize yourself. Our “For Teachers” webpage also contains pertinent information, activities and discussions:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/yaquina/education-groups.php>

The more you are able to interact with the students, the better their experience will be.

Tide Pool Rules

Follow the guidance of the park education staff who will review and emphasize the rules .

RULES OF THE POOLS - SHOUT OUT		
Rule	Ranger Shouts	Student Shout Reply
Walk on Bare Rocks	<i>Walk on</i>	BARE ROCK
Don't pick up alive critters	<i>Alive or attached</i>	DON'T PICK IT UP
OK to touch gently	<i>Touch</i>	GENTLY
No Collecting	<i>Collect only</i>	TRASH
Leave sticks and stones	<i>Sticks and Stones</i>	LEAVE EM ALONE

How can I help students get the most out of their visit?

- Be sure you understand the plan for the day, as instructed by the student's teacher.
- Ask the group's teacher for any material that will help you with the students.
- Ask the teacher whether the students have specific projects to work on, and how you can help them before, during, and after the visit.
- Interact and have fun with the students.
- Be sure to ask questions of each student in your group. There will always be a few who will have all the answers.
- Encourage the shy or quiet students to share ideas as well.

Chaperones have rules too!

- Avoid visiting with other adults during the program. Adults visiting with each other distracts students and the ranger from the task-at-hand. Remember that your primary job is to chaperone your assigned students, not to visit with other parents or take photographs.
- Students must stay with their chaperone at all times. Their behavior is your responsibility.
- Turn cell phones off during the visit. If you must have your phone available (teacher, doctor, sick child, etc.), please turn them on vibrate. Answer away from the group after ensuring students are safe with another chaperone or ranger.
- Be sure you know when and where to meet the rest of your group during and at the end of the visit.
- Please leave additional small children at home if possible. They distract you from your duties as a chaperone.

Inquiry Questions

While exploring in the tidepools, we try to stimulate inquiring minds, encouraging them to ask questions, touch, and discover the wonders of nature and science. To help facilitate this process, we have included a list of some common species found, along with some possible questions you might use with the kids in the group. Keep in mind that the questions are very simple and may need to be re-worded for advanced or upper level students.

Please take a few minutes to look at the Inquiry Questions on the following pages before arriving. Make a copy to bring with you, or borrow one of ours when you are here.



TIDE POOL INQUIRY QUESTIONS

Giant Green Anemones

Anthopleura xanthogrammica



- Why are Giant Green Anemones green?
- Describe what happens when you touch the outside of the Anemone? The inside flower-like tentacles?
- Why do Anemones cover themselves with rock and shell pieces?
- Why don't you want to touch its center (like a belly button)?
- Can you find an anemone eating? What for dinner?

Ochre Star

Pisaster ochraceus



- Why are Ochre Stars different colors? How many different colored Sea Stars can you find?
- Touch a sea star. What does it feel like?
- Where is the mouth of an Ochre Star? How do they eat?
- Why are Sea Stars considered kings/queens of the tidepools?
- Where are Ochre Stars' eyes located? Why?

Purple Sea Urchin

Strongylocentrotus purpuratus



- Why are Purple Sea Urchins spiny?
- Gently touch and hold your finger on the Sea Urchin spines for a 10 seconds or more. Describe what happens.
- Why Purple Sea Urchins covered with shells and driftwood? What happens if you try to gently remove a stick or shell?
- Where is the mouth of a sea urchin? How do they eat?
- What other species are they related to? (Hint: they have arms)

Acorn Barnacle

Semibalanus cariosus



- What do barnacles eat?
- How do barnacles stay attached to the rocks? Why?
- Can barnacles move from one place to another? How?
- Where are barnacles found? Are they on rocks? With other plants, or animals?
- Can you find three different types of barnacles? How are they different

Pacific Blue Mussel

Mytilus californianus



- Why do Mussels live in large groups (beds)?
- Can you find where Mussels attach to the rocks?
- Carefully get close to a mussel and try to find the threads that they hold on with? Are other critters or plants living nearby?
- How do Mussels eat?
- Who likes to eat mussels?

TIDE POOL INQUIRY QUESTIONS

Hermit Crab
Pagurus spp.



- Can you find a hermit crab moving in the water? What is it doing? (Hint: you need to sit still and watch carefully.)
- Do Hermit Crabs grow their own shells? If not, where do they get their shells?
- How long can Hermit Crab live without a shell? For how long?
- What do Hermit Crabs eat?
- Why doesn't the Giant Green Anemone eat the hermit crab?

Gumboot Chiton
Cryptochiton stelleri



- Touch the Gumboot Chiton. What does it feel like?
- What is it related to?
- Can you see it move?
- Why does it look like a rock?
- Would you like to be a chiton? Why or why not?

Turban Snail
Chlorostoma funebris



- Can you find a Turban Snail that is moving?
- Why are they called Turban Snails?
- What do you think Turban Snails eat?
- How do Turban Snails move? How do they protect themselves?
- Are Turban Snails related to land snails? How are they the same or different?

Tide Pool Sculpin
Oligocottus maculosus



- Can you find a Sculpin “resting” or laying on the bottom of the tide pool? What is it doing? What happens if you touch it?
- Is the Tide Pool Sculpin an invertebrate or vertebrate?
- How large will the Sculpin grow to be? How does it protect itself?
- Does the Sculpin ever leave the tide pool? Can it live out of water?
- What do Sculpins eat?

Gooseneck Barnacle
Pollicipes polymerus



- Touch and gently try to move a one barnacle. Does it move or not?
- Why are they called gooseneck barnacles?
- What does the Gooseneck Barnacle eat?
- Where do you find the Gooseneck Barnacle ?
- What question would you like to ask the Gooseneck Barnacle ?