

# An invitation to help develop science programs using distance learning over the I-Net & Internet.

## Real Research • Longitudinal Studies • Animal Observation



### Living Systems

During 2002-03 students counted over 40 seals at a time off Sheffield Island in Norwalk Harbor using the images from the Aquarium's remote, controlled camera. They developed hypotheses and studied various factors, like weather, boating and season, to learn the effects on the various species of seals as well as their adaptations and life cycles.



### Long Island Sound Ecosystems

Students participate in live, real-time, interactive virtual field studies on cruises aboard the RV Oceanic along the Connecticut shoreline. These interactive journeys relate directly to Connecticut and Long Island Sound. Students classify and count the types of plants and animals that occur in Long Island Sound in relation to tide, water conditions and weather.



### Biodiversity

Students observe the diversity of animals moving and interacting in a dozen of the Aquarium's live exhibits. They can compare and contrast the form and function and behaviors of a shark with a bluefish: a seal with an otter: a jelly and a seahorse.



### Natural Cycles

Students can observe and monitor seasonal changes in animal populations and correlate to real-time data from the Aquarium's weather station and probes that monitor water quality in the Norwalk River.



### Eye to Eye Interactivity\*

We demonstrate - you duplicate- through mirrored learning activities. Hands-on learning about squid anatomy or what a seal has eaten through dissection (scat in the case of seals). Experience a seal feeding through the eyes of the feeder. Classes receive a kit to prepare and use in the classroom during the interactive session.

\*two-way video and audio interactivity is available at select I-Net sites and on the Internet.

I-Net technology enhances the educational benefits associated with the live, interactive learning students experience at the Aquarium or during field programs allowing enhanced long-term study.

There will be no cost to six participating teacher groups for the development of programming that meets their specific needs.

Many teachers are not aware of the ease-of-access to this innovative and potentially valuable educational resource. See if your school can transmit as well as receive for a truly interactive experience.

# Just in time for Science CMT's Unlock Your Students' Inner Scientist

If you teach in Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Milford, Orange, Milford, New Canaan, Norwalk, Redding, Stamford, Stratford, Weston, Westport, Wilton or Woodbridge then you have access through the I-Net, a community educational service provided by Cablevision. Connecting is simple. Just like at home, set your I-Net channel to 94.



Programs incorporating distance learning can be used before and/or after a class visit to The Maritime Aquarium to create an on-going learning experience that makes science learning more interesting and more meaningful for students. At different times you could use distance learning with your whole class, with small groups or for individual student research.

Inter-district, inter-student collaboration: if you have access to send & receive I-Net you can have face-to-face communication with classes and students in other districts to have your students learn what other students are doing. Culminate the experience with a coordinated visit to TMA to work and present your projects. If your I-net connection just receives, you can use Internet-based video or chat room conferencing.

**If you are interested in knowing more about the project call Jack Schneider, Director of Education, to ask questions and discuss your interest. (203) 852-0700, ext 2242. [jschneider@maritimeaquarium.org](mailto:jschneider@maritimeaquarium.org)**