



SANTA ANA

## Hoover & Franklin Elementary (2016)



On January 15 & 25, a total of 120 third-grade students from Hoover and Franklin Elementary schools from the Santa Ana Unified School District ventured to Newport Bay (many for the first time in their lives) to participate in Newport Sea Base's *Journey to the Ocean* field trip program. Thanks to the generosity of the Santa Ana North Rotary, these students experienced hands-on learning at three educational stations: Lifecycle of Trash, Water Pollution/Filtration, and Wetlands Investigation. Students' tour on the Sea Base's pontoon boats was educational indeed, as they spied sea lions, diving hawks and pelicans, and learned the basics of navigation. Their scientific investigation continued at the Back Bay Science Center as they felt the animals in the touch tanks, analyzed plants and animals with microscopes, and participated in a mud grab.

Third-grade teacher – Jennifer L'heureux commented, "There was a good variety of activities to keep the students interested throughout the day. The staff seemed happy to work with us and patient with the students' excitement. So much learning took place throughout the event. Many common core standards were covered including: research, asking & answering questions, and describing the relationship between scientific ideas or concepts. Awesome, awesome field trip! Very well organized and the group sizes were perfect. A very low stress day for the teachers as the presenters kept the students' interest levels up and the schedule was diverse and precise. Honestly, it was a perfect day!"

## Taft Elementary (2016)



On January 22, 55 second-grade students from Taft Elementary school in the Santa Ana Unified School District participated in Newport Sea Base's *Journey to the Ocean* field trip program. Thanks to the generosity of the Santa Ana North Rotary, these students experienced hands-on, S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) based educational stations: Model Boat and Sail Building, Rain Gutter Regatta, Boat Navigation and Nautical Flags. Students measured and designed their own sails for model catamaran boats and raced their boats against their classmates' creations. After the regatta, the students cruised Newport Harbor via on-the-water classrooms, aka pontoon boats. On board, students learned map skills and demonstrated their navigation capabilities. They also learned about geometric shapes and uncovered hidden messages by learning how to read the Nautical Alphabet.

Second-grade teacher - Ms. Becky Posse added, "This is my favorite field trip that I've ever gone on. The activity stations you have set up are very engaging to the students. They enjoyed making the code flags to create their initials. Your method of teaching the cardinal directions was very enjoyable enabling the students to learn quickly and help navigate the pontoon boat. The mini-boat design and rain gutter regatta is such a huge hit with the kids. The staff seems so excited. They were really "pumped up" to be working with the students and were knowledgeable about their areas of expertise. Their enthusiasm was contagious."