

Connecting future generations and marine scientists

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MARE – Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre

Mission: seek excellence in the study of aquatic ecosystems and disseminate knowledge to support policies for sustainable development.

One main goal: Increase **Ocean Literacy**, contributing to a participative Blue Society, promoting a constant dialogue between researchers, general public and young students.



Before 2015

- Researchers were occasionally invited to develop activities in schools
- Difficult to relate research themes with school programs

From 2015

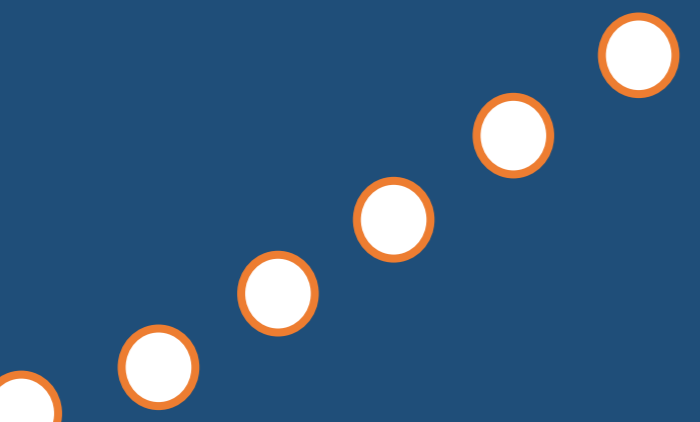
- Educational program “MARE goes to school” is created.
- Activities are structured to strengthen links between researchers, marine science and school communities, from kindergarten to high school



Launch of the Program



Program launched for 60 teachers, with presentation of the activities



Classroom activities

Close relation between research themes and school programs

MARE GOES TO SCHOOL

Visits to the fish market



Students learn in a practical, interactive, creative and informal way

Hands on activities



Visits to MARE



Dynamic and recreational strategies implemented

Activities adapted to different educational stages

Outdoor activities



Explored Topics

- Biology and ecology of marine species
- Sustainable development
- Conservation, exploration and management of marine resources

2015-2016

- 350 activities
- 1700 students
- high % of kindergarten and primary schools

Evaluation ✓

Questionnaires to students and teachers providing feedback to improve future activities

Conclusions

The program has been an important outreach tool, allowing researchers to reach out to young generations and raise awareness for Ocean Literacy