Directions:
Oyster Row Ln. Edisto Island, SC 29438
Google Map

Each program lasts about 1 hr.

**Discovery Vessel Program** (grades 5-12)
35 passenger capacity
Students collect water quality data and sample marine organisms that are collected by a trawl net during the vessel program. There will be an investigation into the organisms’ form and function while identifying them. Students learn about local conservation issues and benefits of the estuary while developing critical science investigation skills.

**Fisheries Management** (grades 5-12)
Student will investigate how decisions are made about local fish species, and work to develop a fishery management plan. To understand how to create a more sustainable fishery, our scientists’ work helps us understand the population dynamics of the resource and the way in which the fishery functions. Have your students brainstorm ideas to protect the fisheries we all depend on.

**Fish or Shark Dissection** (grades 5-12)
This lab includes a study of the adaptations of a common SC fish species. Students will learn about current research being done by fisheries scientists, including how to age a fish using its ear bones! And then dive into a dissection examining the internal and external anatomy of bony fish or sharks. Join DNR staff as we discuss why we study and work to protect these fascinating animals.

**Salt Marsh Field Study** (grades K-12)
Join us for a muddy trek through the marsh to explore its importance and biodiversity. Students will use quadrats to replicate current research sampling methods while practicing species identification and data collection. Students will learn about adaptations of observed wildlife and human impacts on the salt marsh.

**Squid Dissection** (grades 5-12)
Did you know that oysters and squid are related? In this lab students will have the opportunity to examine connections between squid and some of their close marine relatives. Through a hands-on dissection, students will investigate some of the adaptations, defense mechanisms, and reproductive strategies of squid that have made them successful in waters around the world.
Horseshoe Crabs and Shorebirds (K-5th)
Have you ever found horseshoe crabs lying on the beach? Or watched shorebirds skitter along the waves? SCDNR Biologists spend their days (and nights) scouring our beaches looking for these animals. Practice your investigation skills to learn how scientists study these animals, and how they are related to each other and us!

How to Read a Fish (grades K-5)
Cast your fishing line and interest this way as we explore the exciting world of fish. Join us as we examine their body shape and behaviors that make them unique. Discover the ancient Asian method of documenting fish size, Gyotaku! We will use fish and fish stamps to make colorful prints of estuarine fish.

Marine Debris (grades 5-12)
Marine debris is a growing global concern. But where does it come from, how does it get there, and why do we care? Through an assortment of estuary-based outdoor lessons and group activities, students will learn where marine debris originates, how it moves, how it affects our marine ecosystem, and prevention techniques.

Oyster Reef Community (grades 5-12)
South Carolina oyster reefs provide important habitat and food for many species living in the estuary. In this activity students will comb through reef samples to collect, organize and identify the many organisms living

Planet Plankton (grades 5-12)
Did you know that phytoplankton is responsible for producing more than 60% of the oxygen in the air we breathe? In this activity, students will collect, observe, and identify phytoplankton and zooplankton using microscopes and learn of their importance to estuarine and ocean life.

Sea Turtle Ecology (grades K-12)
Come learn about our state reptile! In this activity students will become a sea turtle biologist, learning about sea turtle biology, migration, and nesting. They will monitor a mock nest and determine how human and natural threats to sea turtle survival can be mitigated.