



Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce

# Marine Science Camp Internship in Southeast Florida



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Smithsonian Exhibit at the St. Lucie County Aquarium in Fort Pierce, Florida is located on the Indian River Lagoon (IRL), one of the most diverse estuaries in the U.S., and less than one mile from the Atlantic Ocean. This unique educational facility provides a window into these underwater worlds, offering a variety of hands-on experiences to daily visitors, as well as programming opportunities. Our focus is on displaying ecosystems as complex communities of organisms interacting in their environments. The six main exhibits are models of local Florida ecosystems (seagrass bed, mangrove forest, coral reef, etc.) and vary in size from 500 to 3000 gallons. The Aquarium also features a touch tank and a variety of smaller displays and hands-on activities.

The Aquarium serves as home base for eight week-long sessions of day camp for ages 6-16. Smithsonian Marine Science camps immerse youth in hands-on, feet-wet learning in local estuarine and marine ecosystems in the Indian River Lagoon and Atlantic Ocean. Campers spend a significant amount of time outdoors engaging in activities including kayaking, seine netting, and snorkeling in various locations throughout Florida's Treasure Coast region. The Marine Science Camp Intern will work with education staff to develop age-appropriate **marine science camp curriculum**, create new and engaging **hands-on games and activities** focused on marine science content, and co-facilitate eight weeks of summer camp. Additional objectives can be developed based on intern's personal interests, strengths and/or experience. Learning objectives for the intern include familiarization with Florida marine and estuarine ecosystems, best practices in outdoor environmental education, and an understanding of local marine science research.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Experience working in a summer camp setting (preferred) and/or coursework in science education, a demonstrated ability in effectively communicating with others, a strong interest in marine science, and a willingness/ability to maintain a flexible schedule, including weekends. Intern must be comfortable working outdoors in the Florida summer heat and humidity. Experience supervising children in water is preferred, but not required.

## TIMETABLE

May 15, 2017 - August 4, 2017, 40 hours per week

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit a cover letter and current resume (package limited to **3 pages**) to Cristin Krasco at [KrascoC@si.edu](mailto:KrascoC@si.edu) no later than **Wednesday, February 15, 2017**.

## INTERNSHIP STIPEND

\$4,200 (Housing not provided.)

## CONTACT

Cristin Krasco  
Education Specialist & Volunteer Coordinator  
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