



INVERTEBRATE EXPLORATIONS

Level: Grades 5 – 12

Cost Per Student: \$60 (no meals included)

This trip is a one-day Florida Bay program focused on INVERTEBRATES!

9:00 AM	Arrival and Facility Orientation
9:30 – 10:30 AM	Water Quality Lab
10:45 – 11:45 AM	Invertebrate Diversity Lab
BAG LUNCH BROUGH FROM HOME	
12:30 – 2:30 PM	Mangrove Ecology Field Excursion & Bayside Water Sampling (BOAT)
2:45 – 4:00 PM	Invertebrate Behavior Lab

On arrival, students will be given a brief orientation of the facility before a water quality lesson. Students will understand the meaning of five water quality parameters, gain experience using tools to collect these measurements, be able to make sense of the data and connect the importance of the abiotic with the biotic. Students will continue to make this connection with the invertebrate diversity lab; they will “shake” a live rock to find and identify invertebrates. Impacts on diversity and meaning of a healthy invertebrate community will be discussed.

After lunch, students will board the boats for a field excursion to FL Bay. They will learn about the mangrove habitat and collect water quality data along the way. Lastly, students will participate in the Invertebrate Behavior Lab. The lab will allow the students to see and learn about invertebrates that inhabit mangroves by conducting their own experiments.

AVAILABILITY: November, December, January and February