



## What is a Marine Science/ Pre-Advanced Placement magnet program?

Magnet students will learn in a small, personalized setting where, in addition to a solid foundation in English, math, social studies, science and physical education, they will focus on marine science. Sixth-eighth grade students taking marine science focus on various aspects of the Chesapeake Bay, its tributaries and its watershed while supporting the core science curricula. Sixth grade marine science students are also introduced to life in the Bay. In seventh grade, students will study anatomy, life histories, conservation, invasive species and the interconnectedness of nature while focusing on submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), blue crabs, oysters, fish, marine mammals and more. Eighth grade topics include properties of water, tides, currents, bathymetry, wetlands and global climate change. Students are introduced to essential academic skills associated with Advanced Placement (AP) courses, including vocabulary, writing and communication skills. All core curriculum areas as well as foreign languages, fine arts and other related arts classes are integrated within the marine science focus.

## How can I find additional information?

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as of October 2017

# Marine Science/ Pre-Advanced Placement MAGNET PROGRAM



## Booker T. Washington Middle School



HOME OF THE  
BAY SAVERS



# Marine Science/Pre-Advanced Placement Magnet Program

## Booker T. Washington Middle School



### Who is eligible?

All rising sixth, seventh and eighth grade students are welcome to apply. This magnet program allows students interested in marine science to pursue their interest in a rigorous academic environment using the immediate surroundings as an extension of the school building.

Current Booker T. Washington magnet students and their siblings have priority admission. If there are more applicants than there are spaces, students will be selected by computer lottery.



### What is distinctive about the magnet program?

The magnet program allows middle school students to explore Virginia's coastal habitats with an emphasis on appreciation of the environment and conservation of the coastal ecosystem. It incorporates hands-on field and laboratory experiences that focus on marine science.

The aquatics laboratory is a unique classroom setting, housing over 20 saltwater and freshwater tanks, including a 450 gallon tank. These tanks are home to various species of fish and invertebrates native to the Chesapeake Bay, many of which are collected on the previously mentioned field trips. Students assume responsibility for feeding for the animals and caring for their tanks.

The magnet program has partnerships with science museums, colleges and universities, environmental agencies and local businesses and is involved in several action and community service projects:

- The school grows oysters and plants them on a sanctuary reef and also grow underwater grasses in school and then plant them in the James River.
- As a part of the Trout in the Classroom program, Trout Unlimited helps our seventh grade science classroom house brook trout from eggs to fingerlings.
- The school also takes part in area cleanups in association with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the City of Newport News Recycling Department.

### Where do students go after the magnet program?

Students from the Marine Science/Pre-Advanced Placement magnet program are prepared for any high school program and entrance into Advanced Placement classes.

### How do I apply for the program?

All students who wish to attend magnet programs must submit a Magnet School Application by the January deadline. Applications are available at any Newport News school, the Administration Building and on the Newport News Public Schools website at [www.nnschools.org/magnet](http://www.nnschools.org/magnet).

Transportation is provided to all magnet programs.



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