**Rutgers Ocean Days Information Packet**

The Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences (IMCS) at Rutgers University is hosting its 4th annual Rutgers Ocean Days. The Rutgers Ocean Days encourages students to develop questions and an inquiry-based scientific investigation or a research project that builds upon the knowledge they have learned about this year’s theme.

The goal of Rutgers Ocean Days is to excite and engage students about the oceans by providing a platform for students to share their ocean science investigation results with one another and Rutgers University scientists. This allows the students to act as science communicators and peer educators.

**Student Presentations**

After each class/club conducts an investigation to explore this year’s theme they will develop a presentation on the investigation and their results to present at the afternoon Science Expo of the Rutgers Ocean Days. At the Science Expo all students will share their investigations with other students as well as Rutgers University faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates.

Classes/clubs have a choice of how to present their investigations:

1. Prepare a poster presentation of the investigation to teach about your topic, or,
2. Create a 1-2 minute video that teaches the audience about your investigation.

All posters will be presented during the first part of the Science Expo. Each class/club will have an area of the meeting space room to set up their display. Members of the class/club will rotate through presenting on their investigation and observing other students’ investigations.

All of the films will be shown at the end of the Science Expo for everyone to watch together.

See below for more information about the path you wish to pursue with your students.

**IMCS Assistance & Contact**

The MARE Team at IMCS is ready to help in whatever way we can. We can help to develop questions or the investigation, to provide assistance undertaking the investigation, to brainstorm poster content, to assist in the development of the storyboard for a film, and many other tasks. The “Understanding Science – how science really works” website produced by UC Berkeley is a helpful resource when developing a scientific investigation (<http://undsci.berkeley.edu/index.php>).

For questions or additional information on the Rutgers Ocean Days 2013 please contact Kristin Hunter-Thomson at hunterthomson@marine.rutgers.edu. Please include “Rutgers Ocean Days 2013” in the subject line of your email to ensure a prompt response.

**Poster Goal**

After running an investigation or a research review of current information on a topic, scientists travel to professional conferences to present their studies and results to their peers. Therefore, the Rutgers Ocean Days Science Expo will enable students, as scientists, to take part in the same part of the scientific process.

We want students to communicate to other students their observations about the ocean through a traditional scientific form of a poster. See the **Sample Poster** below for ideas of what this might look like for your school. Each class/club may present multiple posters, but there should be at least one of each per class/club.

All participating students will receive a Certificate of Completion in honor of their participation in the Science Expo.

**Poster Submission Requirements**

**Submission Requirements:**

In order for a Poster submission to be eligible for the Science Expo, the class/club must submit the following items:

1. Poster Entry Form (see below; this ensures that you will have the appropriate space for your displays)

If you would like to email the Poster Entry Form, please send it to:

 hunterthomson@marine.rutgers.edu

If you would like to mail the Poster Entry Form, please send it to:

Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences

Rutgers University

Rutgers Ocean Days 2013 c/o Kristin Hunter-Thomson

71 Dudley Rd.

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

1. Hard copy of the Poster (see the “Poster Requirements” section)

**Deadlines:**

***Friday, October 26, 2012***–Deadline for Rutgers Ocean Days registration (visit the website at <http://coseenow.net/mare/ocean-day/> or <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TDSQX9Y> to register)

***Friday, April 5, 2013***–Deadline to submit the Poster Entry Form to the MARE Team

***Tuesday, April 9, 2013*** – Students present Poster(s) at the Science Expo (grades 3-5)

***Wednesday, April 10, 2013*** – Students present Poster(s) at the Science Expo (grades 6-8)

***Thursday, April 11, 2013*** – Students present Poster(s) at the Science Expo (grades 9-12)

**Poster Requirements**

**General:**

* The poster should include the following sections: 1) title and author names, 2) concept for the investigation, 3) question(s) of the observations you will make as part of your investigation, 4) explanation of methods of testing the question(s), 5) graphs or images of results, 6) description of results, and 7) description of what the results mean for your lives and for the oceans.
* Content on the poster about your investigation can be written or visual, but must convey to the audience the scientific process.
* All posters must be original and may not contain content that is inappropriate for general audiences.
* Posters must comply with copyright rules and regulations. Sources of information and materials used must be properly acknowledged and credited on the poster.

**Poster Format:**

* All posters should be submitted on a poster board **at least 22” x 28”**.
* Paint, pen and ink, crayon, markers, etc. are all accepted when creating the poster.

**Review & Scoring**

The class/club display will be reviewed and an anonymous panel of scientists will score the overall display during the Science Expo. Displays can score a maximum of 100 points, which is based upon the 10-category **Poster Rubric**. The rubric has been provided at the end of this document to give each class/club an understanding of the key elements that the review panels will use when scoring the overall display.

**Other Conditions**

The IMCS is not liable for any materials and services purchased to produce the poster(s). Participants assume all responsibility for damages, injuries, and cost. The IMCS reserves the right to broadcast entries once submitted. Forms of broadcast include, but are not limited to, posts on the MARE blog. By presenting a display, the participants grant all rights, title, and interest to IMCS in broadcasting, but still maintain ownership of the display concept. The IMCS is not responsible for copyright errors made on the posters.

**2013 Poster & Demonstration Rubric – 100 points total**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **15 pts** | **10 pts** | **5 pts** |
| Science  | The display teaches a scientific concept through the investigation. | The display teaches a scientific concept but there was no investigation. | The display does not teach a scientific concept. |
| Content Facts & Information | All facts and information presented were accurate and complete. | Most of the facts and information presented were accurate and complete. | Only a few of the facts and information presented were accurate and complete. |
| Persuasive Elements | The display clearly explains how the results of the experiment relate to the ocean and humans. | The display only explains how the results of the experiment relate to the ocean or to humans. | The display does not explain how the results of the experiment relate to the ocean and humans. |
| **Category** | **10 pts** | **7 pts** | **5 pts** |
| Theme & Objective | The display clearly showcases the Rutgers Ocean Days’ theme and Ocean Literacy Principle 6. | The display only moderately showcases the Rutgers Ocean Days’ theme and Ocean Literacy Principle 6. | The display did not showcase the Rutgers Ocean Days’ theme and Ocean Literacy Principle 6. |
| Style & Organization | The poster’s message was well conceived and showed good organization of the content. | The poster’s message was well conceived, but the information could have been more organized. | The poster was poorly done and showed little or no organization of the content. |
| Scientific Process | The poster includes the scientific process. | The poster is missing parts of the scientific process. | The poster does not include the scientific process. |
| Creativity | The display includes many creative elements that engage the viewer. | The display includes some creative elements that engage the viewer. | The display does not include any creative elements that engage the viewer. |
| **Category** | **5 pts** | **3 pts** | **1 pt** |
| General Requirements | Submitted the Entry Form, and fully followed formatting instructions. | Did not submit a complete Entry Form, or only partly followed formatting instructions. | Did not submit the Entry Form and did not follow formatting instructions. |
| Punctuation & Grammar | The poster has been edited carefully. There are no grammatical errors and is easy to read. | The poster has grammatical errors but it does not make it confusing or hard to read. | The poster has many grammatical errors, which makes it confusing and hard to read. |
| Titles & Credits | All titles and credits were accurate, and legible. | All the titles and credits were accurate, but some were not legible. | Titles and/or credits were inaccurate or missing. |

**2013 Poster Entry Form**

Title of Investigation:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Posters:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Size of Poster(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments/Requests:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Teacher:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Email Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level: ⬜ 3rd ⬜ 4th ⬜ 5th ⬜ 6th ⬜ 7th ⬜ 8th ⬜ 9th ⬜ 10th ⬜ 11th ⬜ 12th

School Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby agree to all Terms and Conditions as found in the 2013 Ocean Days Information Packet document and on the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers University COSEE NOW website and associated links.**

**Coach Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*\*\* Please submit Poster & Demonstration Entry Form to the IMCS*

*by Friday, April 5, 2013. \*\**

**Questions?** Email Kristin Hunter-Thomson athunterthomson@marine.rutgers.edu

**Sample Poster**

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