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UIUC Aquatics Club



Club activities

Our club has taken part in field trips to facilities with aquatic animals, gained hands-on experience in educational labs with licensed veterinarians, and listened to lunch lectures from experts in the aquatics field.



2019 tour of the medical facilities at Shedd Aquarium



2016 trip to Boneyard Creek to clean out pollution in honor of Earth Day



2018 trip to Brookfield Zoo for a pinniped necropsy (autopsy) lab



2019 exam on a resident clownfish from our school tank

Meet our resident fish



Meet Our Saltwater Fish

International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine
Illinois Student Chapter



We take care of several resident species that live in the saltwater and freshwater tanks outside of the veterinary school classrooms

Sea Creature Anatomy



Bony Fish

vs

Sharks

- **Skeleton made of bone**
- **Have a gas bladder to help them float and sink**

- **Skeleton made of cartilage, not bone**
- **No gas bladder, uses liver for buoyancy instead**

- **The top of the turtle shell is called the carapace and is made up of plates called scutes. Different species have different numbers of scutes!**
- **Unlike freshwater turtles and tortoises, sea turtles cannot retract their flippers and heads into their shells**
- **Sea turtles have salt glands behind their eyes to excrete excess salt from their bodies. When out of water, this makes it look like they are crying!**

How You Can Care for Ocean Life

- Human impact on aquatic wildlife
 - Oil spills
 - Pollution
- REFUSE, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 - Choose alternatives to single-use plastics, like reusable bags, bottles, and straws
 - When you **have** to use plastic, reuse it!
- Eat sustainably!
 - Many kinds of seafood are caught using irresponsible methods
 - Download the Seafood Watch app to see which choices are best for you

