

# Virtual Estuary Education Resources for Students



NOAA Office for Coastal Management  
[coast.noaa.gov/estuaries](https://coast.noaa.gov/estuaries)

When students can't get to a National Estuarine Research Reserve for an estuary education experience, the reserves can bring estuary education to students. Explore this list of resources from research reserves around the country.

## **ACE Basin Reserve in South Carolina**

[Virtual Summer Camp](#) – Join this virtual field trip to explore animals that live in the Charleston Harbor estuary.

## **Chesapeake Bay Reserve in Virginia**

[Multi-media Resource Page](#) – Explore the online multimedia resources developed to provide insight into the reserve's research and educate about the coastal and estuarine ecosystems of the Chesapeake Bay.

## **Elkhorn Slough Reserve in California**

[Science Crafts](#) – Download do-it-yourself, family-friendly science crafts for kindergarten to fourth grade.

[Monitor the Otters](#) – Help Elkhorn Slough Reserve scientists monitor the slough otters. Access the live camera, then follow the instructions to document your observations on the data sheets provided.

[Virtual Field Trips](#) – Take a virtual field trip to learn more about Elkhorn Slough estuary. These field trips include K-12 grade-level worksheets and language arts exercises.

[Watersheds, Wetlands, and Estuaries Resource Guide](#) – Download this K-12 environmental education resource guide for the Elkhorn Slough Reserve to complement virtual lessons. This guide includes background information, grade level activities, and photographs.

[Virtual Walkabout](#) – Explore the various habitats of Elkhorn Slough Reserve with a naturalist through this five part video series for middle school students.

[Get Salty! Salt Marsh Bioblitz](#) – Spend time at a recently restored salt marsh recording the returning biodiversity. Use the INaturalist app to continue the exploration in your own backyard! This activity is for middle and high school students.

[Counting Biodiversity in Your Backyard!](#) – Download these middle school lesson plans, along with data sheets and instructions, to accompany the Get Salty! Salt Marsh Bioblitz.

[Nature Journaling in Your Own Backyard!](#) – Explore various aspects of nature journaling through this five-part series for grades six to eight.

### **Great Bay Reserve in New Hampshire**

[Critter Dinner Time at the Great Bay Discovery Center](#) – Visit the Great Bay Reserve Facebook page to watch the staff feeding estuarine creatures in the Great Bay Discovery Center’s Discovery Tank, and learn about the creatures in a New Hampshire estuary.

### **Hudson River Reserve in New York**

[Virtual River](#) – Access a weekly series of lesson plans with a short introductory video about the Hudson River along with suggested activities for younger and older students.

[Virtual River Videos](#) – Visit the YouTube channel to view the Hudson River video series.

### **Jobos Bay Reserve in Puerto Rico**

[En la Bahía de Jobos, Celita y el Mangle Zapatero](#) – Learn about Jobos Bay estuary through this children’s storybook reading.

[Las Aventuras del Pelícano Cano](#), Miriam M. González Hernández – Learn about pelicans in the Jobos Bay estuary through this children’s storybook reading.

### **North Inlet-Winyah Bay in South Carolina**

[Snippets from the Salt Marsh](#) – Explore fauna and flora of the estuary and beach with information and additional resources for each topic. This information is also available through the reserve’s [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

### **Tijuana River Reserve in California**

[Lunchtime Live](#) – Join Tijuana River Reserve staff members each Tuesday for a 20-minute Facebook Live video about life in the estuary.