

Aquarium Exhibits

DISCOVERY WORLD

The aquarium exhibits at Discovery World explore life under water by following the journey of the *S/V Denis Sullivan* from Milwaukee to the Caribbean. This provides a context to understand, compare and contrast and observe the changes in conditions and life in different waters.

As visitors walk down ramps to the bottom they will begin at the Lake Michigan Tank, then onwards to the St. Lawrence Seaway, Northern Atlantic, Florida Keys and Caribbean Reef.

At the base they will reach the Underwater Research Lab. The lab rests on the line between fresh and salt water. From the lab, guests will participate in a number of exhibits and activities that teach them more about the environments they just passed through. They will explore the environments more thoroughly and begin to examine their unique characteristics and biosphere. The lab will also introduce them to technology used both for study and for living under water.

Making Your Way to the Bottom



Swimming Presentation Guests are greeted by a multi-media presentation projected on a 25 x 8 foot screen featuring a variety of swimming animals. This provides a “going beneath the surface” experience while delivering a visual documentation of how various creatures (humans, ducks, dogs, bears, dolphins, sturgeon) swim.



Surface Treatments The walls of the aquarium area will be covered with a material from GKD Metal Fabrics Application. This material will mimic the characteristics of water by reflecting light and suggesting movement. The effect is further achieved by lighting the surface from behind.



Fresh Water Salt Water Line A physical line will be visible in the exhibit space. The line divides the space into a fresh water side and a salt water side. Each side will have its own distinct visual identity that compares and contrasts fresh and salt water environments.

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R.O.V. Tank A 5,000 gallon tank that is on a 3 foot platform and has 6 feet of water. The tank has two or more guest-operated submersible R.O.V.'s that allow visitors to learn how to "drive" under water and explore the "archeological" environment at the bottom of the tank.



Fish Identification Touch screen technology allows visitors to identify the fish they are viewing in the aquariums.

Underwater Research Lab

Life under water is explored in a lab that sits on the fresh/salt water line. Participants join reknown scientists such as Hazel Barton and Bob Ballard in taking a closer look at fresh and salt water environments and exploring the technology of underwater research.



Fish Studies An examination of fish shapes and hydrodynamics is achieved using touch screens, aquarium observation, fish x-rays and a submerged robotic fish to show how fish are "engineered."



Water Studies Tests and activities are conducted using water to understand its characteristics and how it effects life under water.

Water Testing Tests are conducted to measure water's salinity and purity.

Pressure Tank This "column" of water shows the effects of pressure on objects under water. Various objects shown at different depths (or moving from one depth to another) will change shape or characteristics as water pressure is applied.

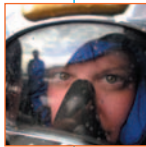
Touch Tanks A fresh water tank featuring live sturgeon and a salt water touch tank with live stingrays allow visitors to get up close and enjoy a tactile experience with fresh and salt water life.

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Microscopic Organisms Microscopes and activities allow a review of small organisms, fish tissue and the characteristics of extremophiles.



Humans Under Water The science and technology that limits and permits humans from living underwater is revealed in the Underwater Research Lab.

Archeology This area reflects on the history of the human relationship with bodies of water, both living on and in it.

Diving The science and technology that is advancing diving capabilities is explored.

Suits Visitors learn the various levels of protection required in different under water environments.

Housing Visitors learn to overcome the difficulty and dangers of living underwater by understanding its effects on the human systems and exploring the challenges of constructing and living in an underwater research facility.

Submersible At the base there will be a full-scale mock-up of a submersible. Guests will be allowed to explore it and use some of the technology on board.