What is GK-12?

- VIMS GK-12 (Graduate Fellows in K-12 Education) places young marine scientists in local middle & high schools.
- Fellows enrich STEM content with new activities based on the most current science.
- GK-12 improves teaching skills of the VIMS Graduate Fellows.

Benefitting Teachers & Students

Incorporating marine science research into classroom lessons provides a unique opportunity:

- Learning about past and present issues in science
- Discovering more science, locally and globally
- Gaining hands-on experience through activities & labs
- Exposure to “cutting edge” science

Learn More!

- VIMS (www.vims.edu)
- VIMS GK-12 (www.vims.edu/education/teaching/gk12/)
- VIMS Public Programs (www.vims.edu/public/)

Page Middle School’s GK-12 Fellow

Bianca Santos

High School: Bridgewater-Raritan High School, Bridgewater, NJ
College: Stony Brook University, NY
Major: Marine Vertebrate Biology; Minor: Ecosystems and Human Impact
Graduate School: Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William & Mary

My Research: I study stranded sea turtles — dead, injured or sick ocean turtles found out of the water and along the coast. Thousands of sea turtles use the Chesapeake Bay seasonally and the numbers of stranded turtles on Bay beaches have increased to around 200-400 per year. I am using computer models and field drift experiments to determine where and how long sea turtle carcasses float in the Bay before washing up on shore. My research will be used to identify possible locations and causes of sea turtle mortality and to highlight areas of focus for their conservation.