

Bethany Smith

Marine Advisory Program/Virginia Sea Grant
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Gloucester Point, Virginia, United States
+1 804-684-7735 bsmith@vims.edu

Summary of Qualifications

An educator with over a decade of formal education and administrative experience at the advanced high school level teaching marine and environmental science. I also have significant research and field experience, having participated in oceanographic research cruises, as well as leading numerous student field courses and mentoring countless student independent research projects. I also hold an M.S. in Biological Oceanography. My passions in education and outreach focus on effective science communication strategies for students, educators and researchers, as well providing students with tangible, real-world, inter-disciplinary extensions of their classroom studies, thus allowing students to become the owners and authors of their learning.

Education

12 graduate credits in K-12 gifted education, Virginia Commonwealth University (2009-2011)

Master of Science in Biological Oceanography, The College of William and Mary/Virginia Institute of Marine Science (2008)

Bachelor of Science in Marine Science and Environmental Geology, Rider University (2005)

Professional Experience

August 2020 – present: Marine Science Education Specialist, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA

January 2014 – present: Adjunct Instructor in Oceanography, Rappahannock Community College, Glens, VA

2009 – 2020: Marine & Environmental Science Instructor, Lead Teacher, Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Tappahannock, VA

2008 – 2009: Fisheries Management Specialist, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Newport News, VA

2008: Chemical Sciences Lab Technician, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA

Selected Projects

- Virginia Scientists and Educators Alliance (VA SEA): Train and mentor science graduate students on research-based lesson plan development.
- Virginia Teachers Innovating and Designing Experiential Science (VA TIDES): NOAA B-WET Grant
- National Ocean Sciences Bowl: Blue Crab Bowl Regional Coordinator

- Camp Launch: The College of William and Mary School of Education
- Virginia Coastal Ecosystems Field Course (bit.ly/coastalfieldcourse)
- Science Communications Fellowship: Ocean Exploration Trust/Nautilus Live
- Marine Science Legacy Program of the Urbanna Oyster Festival

Selected Publications

Eden, Bethany R., Steinberg, Deborah K., Goldthwait, Sarah A., McGillicuddy Jr., Dennis J. 2009. Zooplankton Community Structure in a Cyclonic and Mode-Water Eddy in the Sargasso Sea. *Deep Sea Research I*, 56: 1757-1776.

Smith, Bethany R. 2012. Whale of a Tale. *The Masthead – Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association*, 32: 10.

Professional Service

Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School Warsaw Campus Lead Teacher/Administrator: 2017 – 2020

Urbanna Oyster Festival Education/Outreach Co-coordinator: 2013 – present

Virginia Resource-Use Education Council Virginia Institute of Marine Science Rep.: 2020 - present

Continuing Education

NOAA Deep Dive Professional Development: Underwater Robots, 2020

CITI Program Research Ethics: Area II Disciplines, 2020

NOAA Meaningful Watershed Education Experience (MWEE) 101 Course: 2020

Professional Memberships

Virginia Association of Science Teachers (VAST)

Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association (MAMEA)

National Marine Educators Association (NMEA)

National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSSS)

Association for Supervision, Curriculum and Development (ASCD)