



Floating Classroom on board

Discovery Yacht Eaglewings II

The International SeaKeepers Society, Asia Educational Outreach Programme 2019 Introduction to Marine Science and Conservation closed with the last floating classroom held on September 9. Hosted by Discovery Yacht Eaglewings II, students from the Changkat Changi Secondary School were invited to learn about the effects of warming and ocean acidification and its impact to the marine environment and marine life.

Dr Toh Tai Chong from the National University of Singapore briefed the students on the rich biodiversity present in the Singapore's waters. The accompanying visual presentations from videos of underwater scenes and marine life taken from real dive experiences ensured that the students caught a glimmer of the beauty of the underwater world.

The students learnt that the stony structures of hard corals are composed of calcium carbonate and that in order to create this material, corals rely on a specific pH balance to extract calcium from the seawater. Ocean acidification will therefore have a negative impact on the ability of corals to develop, and on their ability to recover from damage.

To demonstrate this, through a simulation exercise, the students got to see how coral bleaching happens and what is the effect of a change in the ocean's chemistry on corals. A successful day indeed ending with the students touring Marina and enjoying being on board.

Thanks to Eaglewings II for providing such a unique opportunity to the students and for the generous refreshments and snacks at breaktime.

This marks a total of 18 Educational Outreach sessions held in 2019, comprising of on - school premises and floating classroom sessions conducted for over 700 Students in Singapore and Thailand.

Expedition Gallery

Partner sites

Changkat Changi Secondary School: <https://changkatchangisec.moe.edu.sg/>

TMSI, National University of Singapore: <https://www.tmsi.nus.edu.sg/>

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