



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE HUDSON AND HARBOR

We Are Excited That You Will Be Part of This Annual Event!



What Is ‘Day in the Life’?

On one day every fall, school groups sample the Hudson River Estuary and its surrounding waterways, each visiting a site in or near their community. The sites stretch over 153 miles from north to south, from above the Troy Dam near Albany to the Lower Bay of New York Harbor past the Verrazano Bridge. In this event students are scientists, measuring any number of items like tides and currents, water chemistry, fish and biology, salinity, temperature and weather, water clarity, or even sediments from the river bottom. Once students record their results they report them to the Day in the Life program so that they can be shared online, allowing students to compare their site with other locations being sampled. The Day in the Life event uses student data to help build a better understanding of the entire Hudson estuary ecosystem.

Who Participates?

Many ages participate, from elementary grades through high school students and college undergraduates. Close to 5,000 students join us in exploring the estuary each year. Some classes have partners – environmental educators who work with them; others rely on their own resources. Everyone’s data is important; pieced together, they tell us about the entire dynamic system. Results must be carefully recorded, noting the times that data are collected, the units of measurement, and anything that might have affected the results.



Website

Check out the Day in the Life website. It is filled with background information, resources including images of fish helpful in identification, information on what the different tests mean, step-by-step instructions for completing them, and background science on why we measure certain things. The many years of data available on the website give users an idea of what one might expect to find at various river sites. Look for these resources at: <http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/dayinthelife>