



**Shoreline Safari** is an engaging, hands-on beach program where students explore the diverse ecosystems of Alabama's Gulf Coast. From dunes to shallow waters, they'll investigate the shoreline and discover the plants, animals, and other coastal critters that call these habitats home. Students will learn about the impact of coastal pollution on these fragile environments, then take action by collecting seashells and helping clean up the beach. They'll also step into the life of a sea turtle—exploring its life cycle, nesting behavior, and the many challenges it faces. Young explorers will love getting sandy, enjoying the beach, and bringing home a special seashell souvenir to remember their adventure.

**Grades:** 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

**Group Size Limit:** 50-60 students

**Length of Field Trip:** 3 hours with 30 minute break for lunch

**Standards covered:** SC23.1.FMO, SC23.1.H, SC23.2.E, SC23.2.ES, SC23.3.FMO, SC23.3.H, SC23.3.UD, SC23.3.EHA

**Activities:**

- Coastal Cleanup
- Guided Beach Walk
- Shell ID
- Sea Turtle Survival Activity
- Explore interpretive center

**Additional Information:**

Students are encouraged to wear sunscreen and protective clothing. They should bring a water bottle and wear comfortable shoes, as they will be walking and may get sandy during the field trip.

## **Sample Itinerary**

*This is a sample itinerary. A customized itinerary will be created for your group based on your length of stay, students' ages, and your arrival and departure times.*

### Title: **Shoreline Safari**

**Location:** Beach Pavilion / Interpretive Center

**Time:** 9 am -12 pm

**Maximum Group Size:** 50-60

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9:00 – 9:15 AM: Arrive at Beach Pavilion / Unload Lunch / Bathroom Break

- *Break into two groups, If more than 25 students*

9:15 – 9:45 AM: Coastal Pollution Discussion

- *Enviroscape activity for small groups*

9:45 – 10:00 AM: Upper Beach Walk / Dune Ecosystem Chat

10:00 – 10:20 AM: Shoreline Walk / Shell & Trash Collection

10:20 – 10:30 AM: Bathroom Break / *Optional: Snack time*

10:30 – 11:00 AM: Shell ID / Free time in Interpretive Center

- *Group 1: Shell ID (15 min)*
- *Group 2: Explore Interpretive Center (15 min)*
- *Swap for last 15 minutes*

11:00 – 11:30 AM: Lunch

11:30 – 12:00 PM: Sea Turtle Survival on the beach

- *Break into two groups*

12:00 – 12:15 PM: Bathroom Break / Load Bus

### ***Optional Self-led Activity***

12:15 – 12:30 PM: Drive to Nature Center

12:30 – 1:00 PM: Explore the Nature Center / Go to LS Playground / Go on a Walk