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Tour the NEAq from Home

The New England Aquarium in Boston, which acts as an educational resource for more than 130,000 school children and thousands of teachers throughout New England, has opened its virtual doors to online guests who are looking for some family entertainment.

The best part is you don't have to leave your home, and you don't have to spend any money.

[Experience NEAq Insider here.](#)

Developed to be used as an electronic tour guide for Aquarium visitors, NEAq Insider can serve as a way for those who cannot travel to learn interesting details about the Aquarium's global conservation work, as well as intimate details about the sea life that lives within the Aquarium's walls.

NEAq Insider shows interviews of Aquarium staff as they work with penguins, octopus, seals and many more of the Aquarium's most popular residents. Visitors can experience a true behind-the-scenes tour that reveals much fresh and unusual information about the animals, the staff that care for them, and the conservation work that the Aquarium does to

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protect the aquatic world. Among the unusual topics covered are:

- How do Aquarium's divers sedate sharks for medical procedures?
- Does the Aquarium really have a talking seal?
- How does the animal rescue team save a sea turtle with a temperature below 50 degrees?

For those who can take the trip, NEAq Insider can go too. The full video tour can be downloaded to a mobile device at home or in the classroom prior to an Aquarium visit. The audio tour is also accessible at the Aquarium via dial-in phone numbers posted at each featured exhibit.

From the press release...

"We're happy to bring another important layer of information and entertainment to our visitors," said Billy Spitzer, the Aquarium's Vice President for Programs and Exhibits. "These expanded multi-media tools offer visitors another way to better understand and enjoy the remarkable animals that they are seeing. Each of these creatures has a unique story to tell both as an individual and as an ambassador for its species. No one can tell those stories better than the Aquarium staff that care for these magnificent creatures on a daily basis."

NEAq Insider covers 10 exhibits at the Aquarium and acts both as a microscope and a telescope. The guide draws the eye to the smallest details of an exhibit and then zooms out to give an exhibit overview and the history of the animal. Throughout the tour, the guide takes visitors behind the scenes to meet the Aquarium's biologists in action during feeding and training sessions. It highlights fun facts and hidden gems not available during a regular visit. Bonus tracks offer a global view on environmental issues that affect that the animals, and highlight the Aquarium's conservation efforts to better protect each species. "There is often not a clear connection between the WOW effects of looking at huge fish in a tank and understanding ocean conservation issues," says Michael Epstein, president and CEO of Untravel Media in Boston and creator of NEAq Insider. "We hope this guide helps bring the two together."

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Nathan was thinking green at 11:10 AM on January 19, 2009
Comments are sorta kinda broken right now. We're working on it but to save energy can only work in daytime when solar system is at peak performance.



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