Project SEARCH

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Building Buoys





Teachers and students build buoys to answer their own research questions about the Bay and its impact on their lives.

Science Careers





Students from underrepresented populations in the sciences will interact with scientists who are also from underrepresented populations.

Real Inquiry, Real Data, Real Learning





Students use tools scientists use to answer questions as scientists.



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Old Dominion University (ODU) Science Education, ODU Center for Coastal Physical Oceanography, and Portsmouth Public Schools were recently awarded a two-year grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Bay Watershed **Education and Training Program entitled Project** SEARCH (Science Education Advancing Research of the Chesapeake Bay and its Habitats). The focus of the grant is to provide urban students with Meaningful Watershed Experiences (MEWEs) and support the teachers of those students in implementing the MEWEs by providing materials, in class support, and professional development opportunities. The MEWEs and teacher experiences involve building observation buoys in order to explore their own research questions, field sampling aboard a research vessel, interacting with scientists from underrepresented populations, and learning about current local scientific issues from nationally recognized experts and from the data they collect and analyze.