

A vibrant yellow tang fish is the central focus, swimming towards the left. The background is a rich, dark blue aquarium environment filled with various types of coral, including large, flat, white and pinkish structures and smaller, more intricate coral formations. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the fish's bright yellow color against the darker, colorful backdrop.

NATIONAL
MUSEUM *of*
**NATURAL
HISTORY**

Ocean Hall
Pre-Visit Story
Morning at the Museum

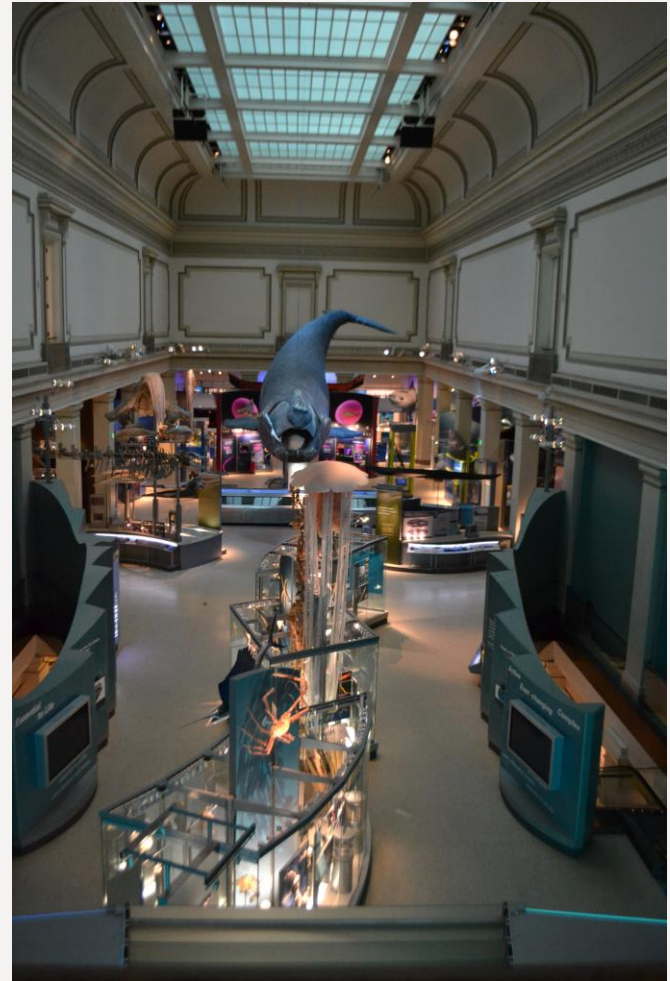
Ocean Hall



- When I am at the National Museum of Natural History, I can visit the Ocean Hall.
- This exhibit tells the story of the ocean and the plants and animals that live in it.

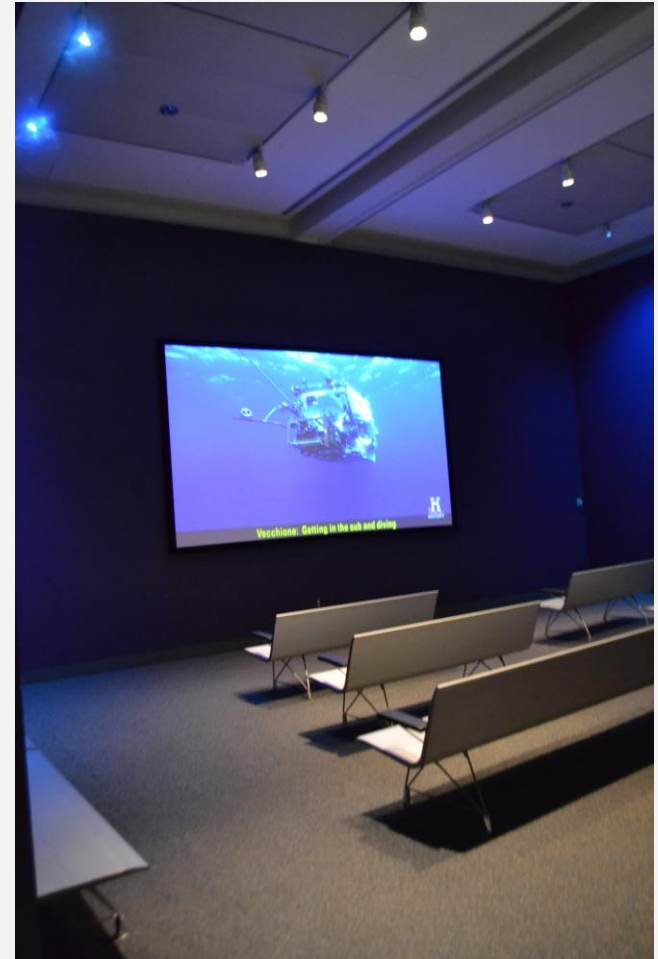
Ways I Will See

- There are many things to see in the Ocean Hall.
- I can look up and I can look down. I can go left or I can go right.
- It is a very big hall and I will stay with my adult.
- I will look at one thing at a time.
- I might not get to see everything.



Things I May Hear or Watch

- There are many sounds to hear in Ocean Hall.
- There are many videos to watch in Ocean Hall.
- I might see a video of a scientist on a boat. Or of a the deep ocean and the animals that live there.
- If it is too noisy for me I will let my adult know so we can take a break.



On Exhibit



- I will see different kinds of things on display in the Ocean Hall.
- I will see living animals.
- I will see animals that used to be living, they are in jars of liquid.

On Exhibit



- I will see fossils. They were alive a long time ago.
- I will see models. They are made to look like living animals, but they were never alive.

Coral Reef



- There is a real Coral Reef I can look at.
- I will see animals in it: like fish and coral.
- I can look but I should not tap on the glass. The animals don't like it.

Giant Squid



- There is a Giant Squid in the Ocean Hall
- She is in a glass tank filled with a special liquid.
- She used to be alive.
- I can touch the glass she is in gently.
- She will not hurt me, but if I am scared I will tell my grown up.

Megalodon Jaw



- There is a Megalodon Jaw in Ocean Hall
- It is much bigger than my jaw.
- It is a fossil, which means it more than 10,000 years old.

The Whale



- I can look up and see a very big whale.
- Her name is Phoenix.
- Phoenix isn't real; she's a model.
- There is a real whale named Phoenix swimming in the ocean.

Things I Can Touch



- There are things I can touch in the exhibit that will teach me about the ocean.
- There are drawers I can open carefully.
- There are replicas of fossils.
- There are interactive computers that I can use.

Science on the Sphere

- There is a big globe that plays a movie on it.
- I can sit and watch the movie.
- I do not have to watch the movie if I do not want to.



Exploring



- There are many things to explore in the Ocean Hall.
- If I find something scary I do not have to look at it.
- I can let my adult know and we can keep walking.

Exiting the Exhibit



- At the exit of Ocean Hall I can either go into the Human Origins Hall or the African Voices Hall.
- If I want, I can stay in the Ocean Hall.
- Natural History is a big museum and it is okay if I don't see everything today.



Revised:
2017, Office of Education and Outreach
Branch of Learning Venues and Visitor Experience



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History