

A vibrant yellow tang fish is the central focus, swimming towards the left. It has a bright yellow body with a slightly darker yellow dorsal fin and tail. The background is a deep blue ocean with various coral reefs in shades of purple, pink, and white. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the fish and the textures of the coral.

NATIONAL
MUSEUM *of*
**NATURAL
HISTORY**

Ocean Hall
Pre-Visit Story
Morning at the Museum

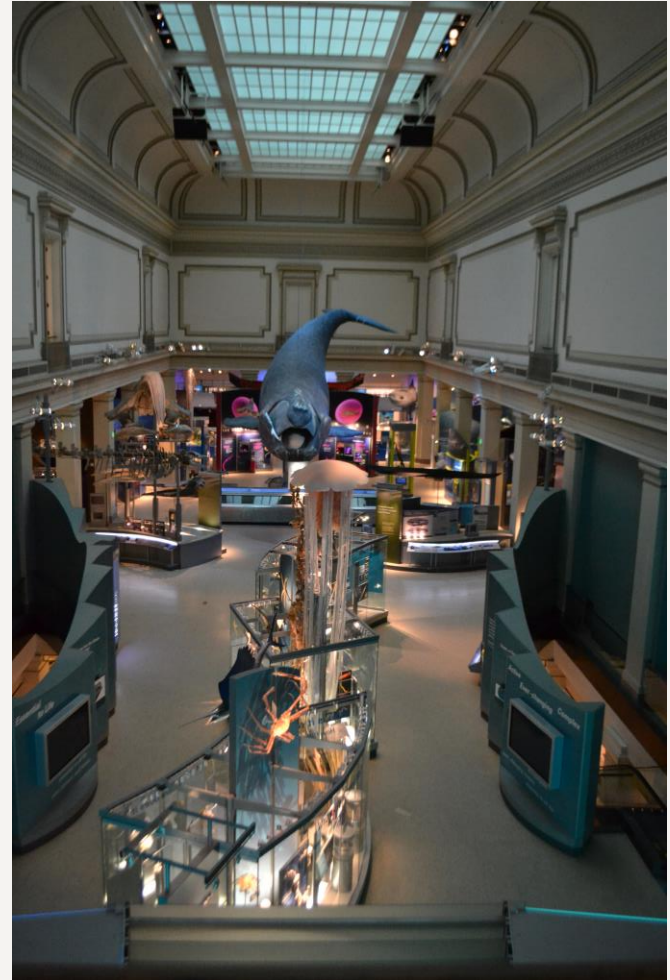
Ocean Hall



- 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.

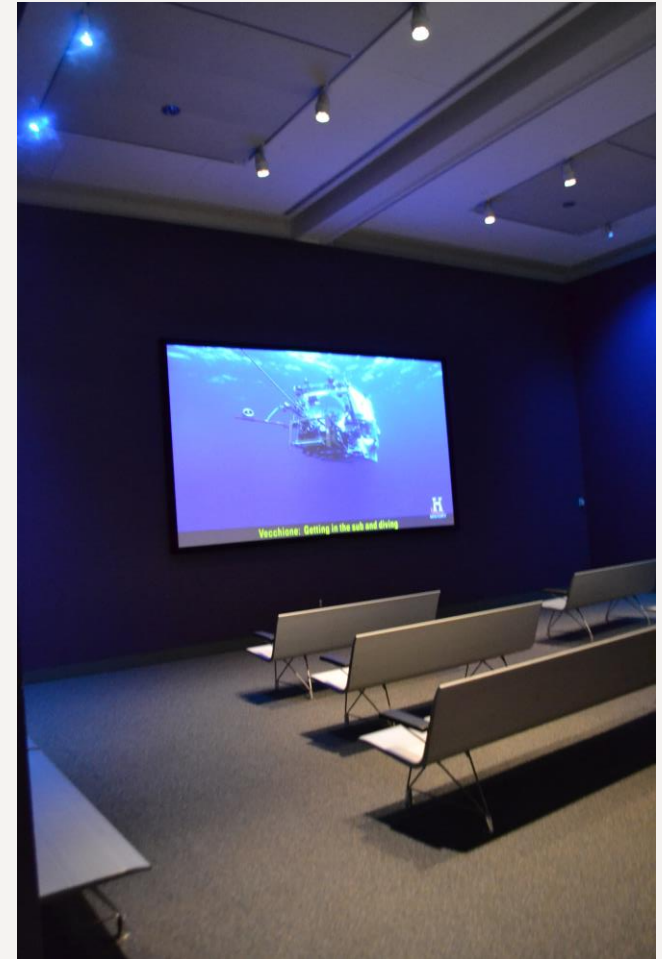
Ways I Will See

- 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 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.

A black and white photograph of a surgeonfish swimming over a coral reef. The fish is positioned in the center-right of the frame, facing left. It has a light-colored body with a darker stripe along its side and a prominent dorsal fin. The background is a dark, textured coral reef with various shapes and sizes of coral. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the fish against the darker background.

Revised:
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Branch of Learning Venues and Visitor Experience



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History