



**Putnam/Northern Westchester  
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## **High School Students to Visit Key Largo**

YORKTOWN HEIGHTS – It's not too early to start making your plans for Spring Break 2010. And Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES has the trip for you, if swimming with dolphins and snorkeling in the coral reefs sounds appealing!

This Spring Break getaway to Key Largo will mix learning with enjoyment for area high school students as they study marine biology and learn more about the marine ecosystem. The experience includes two boat trips to the coral reefs to either snorkel or scuba dive, a back-country boat trip to snorkel in the mangroves, a dive to an undersea hotel and lab for the divers, a trip into the Everglades, two swims with the dolphins, and an overnight camping trip to a mangrove island.

Students will be involved in a fish identification class and a transect study in the seagrass beds. In addition, they will participate in the following classes: Introduction to Tropical Ecology, A Study of the Mangroves and Seagrass Beds, Introduction to Coral Reef Ecology, Fish ID, Introduction to Sea Turtles, and several classes about dolphins.

Program instructors include marine biologists from NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), Marine Resources Foundation, and Dolphins Plus; instructors from Sea Dwellers Diving Services; and trip chaperones. Accompanying the students will be Arlington High School science teacher Maribel Pregnall, BOCES Risk & Safety Coordinator Mike Sellet, and Trip Coordinator Dorna Schroeter, who is coordinator of the P/NW BOCES Center for Environmental Education and an advanced scuba diver. Ms. Schroeter has been running trips to Key Largo since 1989. Other chaperones will be added as needed.

The trip is scheduled for March 26-April 2, 2010, and participants will stay at the Sunset Cove Resort. The cost is approximately \$1,650 and includes room and board, program components, and ground transportation in Florida. Airfare is separate. The final cost will depend on the total number of participants.

For more information or to register, go to [www.pnwboces.org/environmental](http://www.pnwboces.org/environmental). Then click on Education Trips and go to Key Largo High School Trip (Spring).

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