



## MEDIA RELEASE

10 September 2024

# Make a splash at the Australian National Maritime Museum these school holidays

The Australian National Maritime Museum invites all underwater explorers to take a deep dive into our exciting new school holiday program inspired by our newest exhibition *Challenging the Deep*. Filled with fun for the whole family, this holiday program provides a perfect day out for all to learn, have fun and make memories at the Museum.

Explore the Museum after-dark in a Torchlight Tour, join an interactive musical storytelling experience with Sea Tales, create your own Museum replica in a Sculpture Spectacular workshop, design your own comic book inspired by our *Graphic Tale of Shipwreck* exhibition, build your own small-scale Nawi, and explore our many exhibitions, vessels and activities available on site.

See the full school holiday program below and on our [website](#).



**SHIPWRECKED! Torchlight Tour** - Join character guide Stormy Grey the castaway for a dramatic after dark tour through the museum. Join a hunt to find shipwreck treasure in the museum galleries and enjoy exclusive after-hours access to our spring exhibitions including *James Cameron – Challenging the Deep*. Enjoy themed refreshments and souvenir art making.

**Dates:** Thursday 10 October

**Times:** 6:15-7:45pm

**Ages:** Suitable for ages 4 – 12 and accompanying adults

**Booking:** Bookings essential, see ticket link [here](#).

**Price:** \$25 child, \$20 adult, \$75 family (2 adults and up to 3 children). Members prices vary.



**A Sea of Stories** - Join in lively and interactive musical storytelling about wild storms, brave journeys to distant lands, lighthouse keepers and beat boxing whales.

**Dates:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 1-11 October

**Times:** 11:30am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm

**Ages:** All ages

**Booking:** No bookings required

**Price:** Entry included with See It All ticket



**CREATIVE WORKSHOP: Fantastic Fossils and Spectacular Sculptures** - Be inspired by models, dioramas and fossils in the museum's exhibitions and learn about how museums create replica objects for exhibitions. Experiment with specialist sculpting and mold making materials like silicon and plaster to make your own marvellous models and spectacular sculptures using your favourite objects or specimens. Create your own molds and casts to fill with a variety of materials like soap, wax, plaster or even chocolate!

**Dates:** 2 + 9 October

**Times:** 10:00am – 4:00pm (1 day course)

**Ages:** Suitable for ages 8 – 14

**Booking:** Bookings essential, see ticket link [here](#).

**Price:** \$85 general, \$75 members or Early Bird (before 26 September)



**CREATIVE WORKSHOPS: Comic Creations** - Create your own short comics with science communicators and illustrators in this fun-filled 1-day workshop. Be inspired by our exhibition *Graphic Tale of Shipwreck*, and learn techniques in graphic novel style drawing, science communication, and humour to design witty and wonderful comics about our underwater world.

**Dates:** 3 + 10 October

**Times:** 10:00am – 4:00pm (1 day course)

**Ages:** Suitable for ages 8 – 14

**Booking:** Bookings essential, see ticket link [here](#).

**Price:** \$85 general, \$75 members or Early Bird (before 26 September)



**Kids on Deck: Underwater Explorers** - Be inspired by underwater exploration and maritime archaeology as you enjoy art making and experiments with your family. Create your own ship models and diorama dramas, sculpt clay treasures, sew a softie sea creature or recycle bottlecaps and marine debris into new usable creations like bubble wands and carabiners with our plastic recycling machine. Join in some bubbly experiments, excavate a shipwreck dig site or dress up as your favourite aquatic creature.

**Dates:** Daily during school holidays

**Times:** 10:30am – 4:00pm (drop-in sessions)

**Ages:** Suitable for ages 4 – 12 and accompanying adults

**Booking:** No booking required

**Price:** Entry included with paid admission.



**Model Nawis** – Join Dunghutti artist and elder Uncle John Kelly and artists from the museum's Indigenous programs team as you learn to create your own model, small-scale Nawi out of bark and twine.

**Dates:** 1 + 8 October

**Times:** 12pm, 1pm, 2pm

**Ages:** Recommended ages 7+

**Booking:** Book on arrival

**Price:** Free entry



**Cabinet of Curiosities: Shipwreck Stories** – Explore wonderful and curious maritime archaeology tools and scientific artefacts and tools in this hands-on discovery device in our galleries.

**Dates:** Daily during school holidays

**Times:** 2:00-3:00pm

**Ages:** Suitable for all ages

**Booking:** No booking required

**Price:** Free entry



**Mermaid Melody's Book Nook** - Take a break and enjoy calm creative activities in our lounge area inspired by Valerie Taylor's artistic creation Mermaid Melody. Join in large-scale collaborative colouring of Valerie's mermaid and sea creature artworks, chill out on the pillows, pick up a book or create your own playful stories with sea creature puppets from Mermaid Melody's "touch tank".

**Dates:** Daily in school holidays

**Times:** 10:00am – 4:00pm

**Ages:** Recommended for families with kids aged 0-10 years

**Booking:** No bookings required

**Price:** Free entry



**Ocean Health Lab: Exhibition and drop-in program** - The Seabin Ocean Health Lab is the first of its kind in the world, Seabin scientists analyse marine debris – from macroplastics to tiny nurdles, sucked from the sea by the 30 Seabins stationed around Sydney Harbour. Dive deep into the stories behind the data and learn about what we can do to turn the tide on marine pollution.

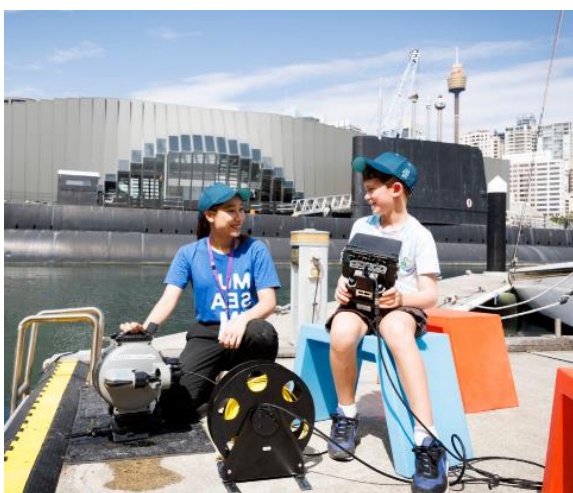
**Dates:** Weekdays between 15–26 April

**Times:** 10:00am – 4:00pm

**Ages:** Suitable for visitors 5 and above

**Booking:** No bookings required, tours available at 11:30am and 1:30pm

**Price:** Free entry



**Underwater Drones: Open Age Workshop** - Explore below the surface of the harbour like an ocean superhero with our newest underwater drones. Have fun testing your gaming skills by challenging family and friends to see who's the best U-Drone Pilot. Underwater drone sessions include a private workshop with our ocean-science educators and access to amazing underwater footage highlights to keep and share.

**Dates:** Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays during school holidays

**Times:** 12pm, 12:45pm, 1:30pm, 2:15pm, 3pm

**Ages:** Suitable for ages 8+

**Booking:** Bookings essential, see ticket link [here](#).

**Price:** \$35 general admission, \$25 members



**Sneaky Sharks Activity Trail** – Follow the trail to spot elusive elasmobranchs in the museum galleries. Uncover splendid shark-related objects and stories as you learn fin-tastic fun facts about everyone’s favourite big fish. Complete the trail to receive your prize.

**Dates:** Daily during school holidays

**Times:** 10:00-4:00pm

**Ages:** Suitable for all ages

**Booking:** No booking required

**Price:** Free entry



**Mini Mariners Program** – Every Tuesday + selected Saturdays each month. Explore the galleries, sing, and dance in interactive tours with costumed guides. Enjoy creative free play, craft, games, and story time in our themed activity area. The theme for October’s Mini Mariners program is Alphabet Animals, where kids can take a journey through the zoo-ponic alphabet of all things furry, feathered and finned as we spot amazing animal specimens and objects in the museum. Enjoy touch tours with creature specimens, movement, songs, games, craft, and free play in our themed activity space. Make your own animal puppet or block-printed hat to take home.

**Dates:** Tuesdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Saturdays 20, 27 April

**Times:** 10:30am – 11:15am and 11:30am – 12:15pm

**Ages:** Suitable for carers with children aged 2 – 5

**Booking:** Bookings essential

**Prices:** \$12 child/adult. Booked playgroups welcome.



**Sensory Friendly Sundays Access Program** - Enjoy a comfortable environment for kids and adults with a variety of sensory differences. On Sensory-Friendly Sundays our new exhibitions and activity areas will be open extra early for a quieter experience and modified to suit people on the Autism spectrum and with a range of differing abilities.

Our trained staff and volunteers will be on hand to facilitate creative activities.

**Dates:** 21 July

**Times:** 8:30am – 11:30am

**Ages:** for all ages and abilities

**Booking:** Pre-booking encouraged

**Prices:** \$12 child/adult. Children under 4 free.

**Additional information:** Minimum height 90cm for entry to Action Stations and vessels.

**ENDS**

For images: [2024 Spring Program](#)

For media enquiries please contact:

Alex Gonzalez

e: [alex.gonzalez@sea.museum](mailto:alex.gonzalez@sea.museum)

m: 0401 545 778