



## Shark Research with Ocean First Institute

Observe Shark Researchers in Action! MarineLab has partnered with Ocean First Institute's (OFI) team of shark biologists, led by Dr Mikki McComb-Kobza and Dr. Chris Malinowski, to offer MarineLab students the opportunity to see what a day in the field looks like for someone who studies sharks. MarineLab students will board MarineLab vessels and meet OFI's vessel/biologists at a site nearby to learn about, and see in action: (1) the methods used to catch and sample sharks; (2) the parameters that are measured and what the data are used for; (3) how scientists safely handle and workup sharks and collect samples; and potentially (4) baited camera deployments used to visually evaluate shark and fish communities. We will save time for a dockside Q+A for students to be able to ask OFI biologists any questions (about sharks, career path, etc.).

A few items of note for this program:

- 1- OFI biologists are researching wild sharks in the field. **There is no guarantee that a shark will be collected for sampling!** If this is the case, OFI scientists will show students tools and methodologies used to collect and sample sharks.
- 2- OFI will bring live sharks onto OFI boats. MarineLab students will be on MarineLab boats. MarineLab boats will be anchored or tied off next to OFI boats so that students can observe. For this program, students will not be allowed on the Ocean First boat. **MarineLab students will NOT be handling any sharks.**

**Grade Level:** 5<sup>th</sup> and above

**Timing:** 3 hours

**Resources:** <https://www.oceanfirstinstitute.org/>