



Coastal Ecology of the Bahamas

"Out Islands," Bahamian archipelago — Because of their small size, islands in the Bahamas are very vulnerable to the effects of human disturbance and coastal development. Bahamians see the costs of economic development every day with the decline in fish, loss of beaches and contamination of drinking water. Working on Great Exuma with Dr. Kathleen Sullivan Sealey you'll help map, protect, and raise awareness of the island's ecosystems, both on land and in the water.

You start your day by taking water quality samples. Then your team will go out on a large boat to survey the islands in Elizabeth Harbor. On the islands you will do land surveys of coastal plants or trap and tag fish in the sea. Your family will also be involved in building an interpretive trail to help translate what you find into information about the quality of island life.

In the afternoon you can help in the lab or relax on the beach. Optional afternoon activities include snorkeling, kayaking, biking, or sailing. Age 10 and up.

June 11 – June 18, 2007

Adult (18+ yrs) \$2549 • Child (10-17 yrs) \$2149

www.earthwatch.org/expeditions/sullivansealey_family.html

Hands-On Science for the whole family

Earthwatch Expeditions make great hands-on family learning experiences, and provide inspiration for travelers of all ages — children, parents and grandparents.

Family expeditions include:

- Half-days of hands-on science based activities guided by scientist and field staff
- Half-day, age-appropriate activities and outings to local attractions
- Earthwatch family coordinator to facilitate kid's activities and local outings for the whole family
- Opportunity to meet requirements for scout badges or community service projects
- Time to explore your surroundings and learn together
- Comfortable lodgings, with swimming pools or beach access



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FAMILY TEAMS



Four Expeditions. Four Ways to Make a Difference.



Mammoth Graveyard

Hot Springs, South Dakota — More than 26,000 years ago, large Columbian and woolly mammoths in search of food and water were trapped in a spring-fed pond near what is now the southwest edge of Hot Springs, South Dakota. The pond that attracted the thirsty mammoths is more commonly known as a sinkhole, once a mammoth fell in it was almost impossible for it to get out.

Today you can help Dr. Larry Agenbroad unearth mammoths, as well as camels, llamas, and the first wolf and giant short-faced bear fossils found in the north-central plains of North America. Piece by piece, the puzzle will come together and you will learn what Hot Springs was like during the Ice Ages.

When you are not helping with excavations, your family will hike at Custer State Park, and see the unusual formations at Wind Cave. In the evenings the whole team will visit Crazy Horse Memorial, take a candlelit cave tour and visit the Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Age 13 and up.

June 24 – June 30, 2007

Adult (18+ yrs) \$2449 • Child (13-17 yrs) \$2049

www.earthwatch.org/expeditions/agenbroad_family.html



Diamondback Terrapins of Barnegat Bay

Barnegat Bay, New Jersey — Colorful diamondback terrapins are the only turtles in America that live in the waters of estuaries, tidal creeks, and salt marshes. These turtles used to range from Massachusetts to Texas, but today they only live in certain areas along the Atlantic coast as their habitats have been taken over by humans.

Working from canoes or motorboats, you will help Dr. Hal Avery capture turtles, tag them and track them throughout Barnegat Bay. You will also help monitor turtle nests on tidal creek banks.

When you are not doing turtle work, your family may do some canoeing on a small forest stream in the spectacular Pine Barrens, take a boat ride for sightseeing, go swimming or explore the salt marsh for birding, hiking, and kayaking. The team will also go out for a night of dining and a visit to an amusement park. Age 10 and up.

July 1 – July 9, 2007

Adult (18+ yrs) \$1949 • Child (10-17 yrs) \$1549

www.earthwatch.org/expeditions/avery_family.html



Puerto Rico's Rainforest

Patillas, Puerto Rico — You are often told about the loss of tropical rainforests around the world, but how often do you get a chance to do something about it? Now your family can help Sally Silverstone test a new way to harvest trees without harming the rainforest.

On the expedition, you will walk through a beautiful, ancient tropical rainforest to measure mahogany and mahoe trees planted in the last 20 years to plot their progress. You learn how to identify trees in untouched areas to compare them with planted sites. At night you will help monitor the coqui, tiny tree frogs, some as small as your finger tip.

During your recreational time, your family will have time to enjoy local hikes, go for a swim in a nearby river or just relax. Salsa dancing classes will also be offered as well as an introduction to rainforest crafts. Age 10 and up.

June 19 – June 25, 2007

Adult (18+ yrs) \$1949 • Child (10-17 yrs) \$1549

www.earthwatch.org/expeditions/silverstone_family.html