



# 'i sea, i care' Ambassador Program

Innovative VICTORIAN Marine Leadership and Education solutions to give an engaged, motivated and interested school community

'i sea, i care' is an award-winning Victorian Marine Ambassador Program with the goal of convincing Victorians that OUR marine treasures are too precious to lose. We want to foster a strong sense of "Marine and Coastal Self-esteem" and stewardship for the truly unique marine values in southern Australia.

'i sea, i care' has benefited over 1300 young Ambassadors, developing them as peer educators, leaders, public speakers, and given them experiences that develop them as individuals and that ripple through their school community. Schools have between 2 and 4 ambassadors.

We provide 4 workshops and 8 assembly scripts and newsletters to help Ambassadors work in their schools. 'i sea, i care' TV and other curriculum support add additional value.

'i sea, i care' works because it is easy and flexible. Parents and even principals bring Ambassadors to workshops, avoiding the need for teacher release. It costs only \$150 (per year) and a commitment to re-publish the 'i sea, i care' newsletter in the school newsletter and support the ambassadors to help with fundraising.

**A snapshot of 2011** - What an amazing year for our Ambassadors!

"Totally Wild" filmed our first workshop which screened nationally on Channel 10 in May!!

In February Ambassadors from Aireys Inlet presented at the National Coastal Conference in Torquay.



The peer teaching workshop in March prepared Ambassadors teaching full science classes in their school.

In April 'i sea, i care' was a finalist in the Victorian Coastal Council Awards for Excellence.

In June Ambassadors from Emerald were presented with their school's World Environment Day Award for their impacts on their school community through 'i sea, i care'.

Emerald Ambassadors presented at their Emerald Community Sustainability group meeting. September heard 7 Ambassadors presenting on 3RRR's Radio Marina.



September also had over 70 Ambassadors experience Western Port's Marine Parks with Marine Park Rangers on the Kasey Lee.

Only days later over 300 people from our 'i sea, i care' family and the wider community came together for our inaugural Walk for Western Port!



## Testimonials

"The students loved every minute of the session and they, most excitedly, told the rest of the class about it- down to exactly acting out what the preps did! As for the skills that will be built for my grade 6 Ambassadors, I can only imagine the confidence that will grow from this experience. So, thanks again!" Maria Healey, Anderson's Creek Primary School

"Best excursion to the dolphins I have been on, so calm and so many dolphins.....I got some brilliant video pieces and as always, the DRI staff and the captain and crew made sure the Ambassadors had a trip that will become a lasting memory." Thanks, Phil Thomas, Woodleigh Junior School

"At the school assembly on Monday our 4 'i sea, i care' Ambassadors and I were presented with Emerald Primary School's Annual World Environment Day awards. This was a lovely surprise acknowledging the positive impact the DRI program has in our school community. Thank you all for the wonderful program and workshops you run." Regards, Debbie Cooper.

To find out more: [www.dolphinresearch.org.au](http://www.dolphinresearch.org.au) or call 1300 130 949



Helping your school community celebrate Victoria's coast

Ph - 1300 130 949

[www.dolphinresearch.org.au](http://www.dolphinresearch.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/driface](http://www.facebook.com/driface)

# 'i sea, i care' with the Dolphin Research Institute



## How does it work?

In this unique program, your students will develop presentation and leadership skills, whilst learning about the marine environment.

Focusing on a different theme every term, the Ambassadors will bring back the message to your school community that Victoria's marine treasures are "too precious to lose."

Each term your students will receive 2 scripts to present to the school at assembly and have the opportunity to attend a workshop\* based around the theme. Parents are able to bring the Ambassadors.

\*Workshop availability will vary within regions.

You will also receive 2 newsletters each term which we ask you to include in your own school newsletter.

Our surveys indicate that the 'i sea, i care' Ambassador program is changing the way Victorians think about their coast whilst developing young environmental leaders for the future.

So come and join the 'i sea, i care' family today!



## Workshop 1: Peer teaching



Presenting to the Preps at Woodleigh

Based around the theme of marine mammals, this workshop teaches the Ambassadors a Marine Mysteries lesson which they can take back to school and into the classroom.



A real marine mystery!

## Workshop 2: Catchments

The Ambassadors discovered that no matter where you live in the catchment, all our litter can end up in the marine environment.



Banyan Reserve litter trap

Major Partner **healthy waterways**  
**Waterwatch Program**

## Workshop 3: Marine Parks



Aboard the Kasey Lee

The Ambassadors got up close and personal with one of the wonders of Western Port, Yaringa Marine National Park, and learnt about some of the challenges facing this amazing habitat.



What lives in seagrass?

Supporter



## Workshop 4: Bays and Inlets



Warringine Reserve

This is an opportunity for the Ambassadors to give back to the environment they have been learning about. And a chance to celebrate the year's achievements with the Ambassador Awards.

# Victoria's Living Marine Treasures "Too precious to lose"

## Support

### Newsletters

These are published twice a term and are full of fascinating stories from all around our coast. This should be included in your school newsletter.



## Website

### Ambassadors' Corner



A place for Ambassadors to share what they have been doing at school and post photos from the workshops.

### 'i sea, i care' TV

Short TV episodes, related to the themes and available for all teachers to view.



### VELS Thinking Starters

These are an initiative of Dolphin Research Institute and are designed to stimulate classroom activities for the whole school, across the curriculum within the VELS framework.



[www.dolphinresearch.org.au](http://www.dolphinresearch.org.au)

Melbourne Water is a major partner of 'i sea, i care' through:

**healthy waterways**  
**Waterwatch Program**

[www.waterwatchmelbourne.org.au](http://www.waterwatchmelbourne.org.au)

## What is the Cost?

All this and so much more for just \$150! (The dolphin swim incurs an additional cost at a discounted rate)

Plus we ask you to:

- Re-publish our one page newsletter in yours each term.
- Support the Ambassadors to participate in this program.
- Fundraise for Dolphin Research Institute (Ambassadors rally your school for the Walk for Western Port or arrange an out of uniform day or similar).

How do you get involved?

Fill out an enrolment form and fax it to 5979 7150, email to: [education@dolphinresearch.org.au](mailto:education@dolphinresearch.org.au) or call us on 1300 130 949

Visit our website for more resources



See video program promos on the web.



[www.dolphinresearch.org.au](http://www.dolphinresearch.org.au)



## Getting involved



### AMBASSADOR ENROLMENT

I am proud for my son/daughter to become part of the '*i sea, i care*' Ambassador program, recognising that Victoria's marine treasures are "too precious to lose".

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT EMAIL \* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Student email is optional, however it does enable Ambassadors to send their photos, from workshops and other '*i sea, i care*' activities at school, directly to DRI for Ambassadors' Corner.

Dolphin Research Institute would like permission to use Ambassador photos in local media and for our own purposes in promoting education programs and '*i sea, i care*'.

[  ] I agree for images of my son/daughter's involvement in the program to be used for educational use.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE        /        /

## Contact us

1300 130 949 Email: [education@dolphinresearch.org.au](mailto:education@dolphinresearch.org.au)

OR visit [www.dolphinresearch.org.au](http://www.dolphinresearch.org.au) or [www.facebook.com/driface](https://www.facebook.com/driface)

Western Port Marina, Hastings Victoria (Mel Ref 154 K12)