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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**AQUARIUM OUTREACH PROGRAMS EDUCATE  
MORE STUDENTS THAN EVER BEFORE**

**Sandy, UT** (September 7, 2011) – The Living Planet Aquarium education department currently operates two education outreach programs: the **Utah Waters Van** and the **Rainforest Van**. In addition to the outreach programs, on-site **core-based classroom programs** (*EcoVenture Classes*) for pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and a **teacher professional development program** (*Utah's Unique Environments*) with resources for 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are offered. All of these programs provide a unique learning environment for students of all ages to re-ignite an appreciation of the Earth's diverse yet fragile ecosystems.

The Living Planet Aquarium is pleased to announce that the 2011-2012 Utah Waters Van outreach program will be offered to every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in the state! During the program, presenters guide students through a discussion of the water cycle, human uses of water, wetland ecosystems and the importance of water conservation. Large interactive models allow students to see many of the processes that support the discussion. The highlight of the Utah Waters Van presentation continues to be the models and how they enhance the student's learning experience. "Our outreach programs are presented one class at a time; not with assemblies," says Angie Hyde, Director of PR & Marketing. "We will reach over 50,000 students with both our Utah Waters Van and Rainforest Van outreach programs, teaching to one class at a time" said Hyde.

The 2011-2012 Utah Waters Van program began August 29 and the Rainforest Van program began August 30. The *Utah's Unique Environments* teacher workshops begin again this fall and *EcoVenture Class* spots are now available for Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade public, private



and charter schools, home school groups of 15+ students, and preschool or after school programs supported by state or federal funding. Following is the outreach schedule for the next few weeks (date & time subject to change).

**Utah Waters Van:**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Sept 14 8:40am-Noon | James Moss Elementary, 4399 S 500 E, Salt Lake/Murray |
| Sept 16 9:30am-Noon | Plymouth Elementary, 5220 S 1470 W, Taylorsville      |
| Sept 21 9:45am-Noon | McMillan Elementary, 315 E 5900 S, Murray             |

**Rainforest Van:**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Sept 6 9am-2pm        | Welby Elementary, 4130 W 9580 S, South Jordan |
| Sept 8 10:15am-2:00pm | Uintah Elementary, 1571 E 1300 S, Salt Lake   |
| Oct 4 9:15am-3:00pm   | Sprucewood Elementary, 12025 S 1000 E, Sandy  |

**The Living Planet Mission Statement**

The Living Planet Aquarium engages people to explore, discover and learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems.

The Living Planet Aquarium is located at 725 E 10600 S in Sandy. Hours of admission: Monday-Sunday 10am to 6pm. Admission tickets are \$9/adults, \$8/seniors/students/military, \$7/children ages 3-17 and free/children under 2 years of age. Visitors may purchase annual memberships for \$20/adult and \$16/child. Members receive 1 year of admission plus 10% discount on gift shop items, stingray feedings and birthday parties, and \$5 off Penguin Encounters. Phone: (801)355-FISH (3474) website: [www.thelivingplanet.com](http://www.thelivingplanet.com)



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