



# Museum Access: The John G. Shedd Aquarium

## SEASON 1 - EPISODE 4

The John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, IL is home to thousands of marine animals. An aquarium requires many skilled people to run smoothly and provide care for all of its residents. This episode takes us behind-the-scenes to see this complex and caring process. Let's continue the learning with these questions and talking points.

### Question 1

Why are enrichment sessions so important for the beluga whales?

**More Talking Points:**

1. How do the trainers interact with the Beluga whales?
2. How is this training related to the whale's natural instincts?

### Question 2

Why do sea otters require so much food?

**More Talking Points:**

1. Can you describe their habitat?
2. What is their typical day like?

### Question 3

How does the staff care for the thousands of animals that live there?

**More Talking Points:**

1. How are they fed, and cared for when they are sick?
2. Talk about the staff at the aquarium and their different jobs.

### Question 4

How are physical check-ups at the aquarium similar to your check-ups at the doctor?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What did the vet check on the Flying River Turtle?
2. How do surgeries at the aquarium differ from surgeries at human hospitals? Particularly for the larger marine animals like a whale?

### Question 5

What are some of the things you would want to learn about in the Shedd Teen Lab?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What behind-the-scenes experiences would you want to have?
2. What would you be interested in learning from staff members?

