

Dear Friend:

You all know how the Fleet's programs and exhibits provide the chance for the general public to connect to the science that makes San Diego an amazing place. But what you may not know is that we also play a role in advancing the very science we present. Across San Diego there are research teams exploring fundamental questions about how our brains develop, how we learn and how we make sense of the world around us. To answer these questions, however, they need access to people willing to participate in their studies. With a diverse audience of over 450,000 science interested visitors annually, the Fleet community is an ideal place to make such a connection.

The Fleet works with researchers from across the county providing access to our audiences while giving our visitors the opportunity to play an important role in advancing scientific research. Among the Fleet's network of scientists are researchers working at: the UCSD Kids Science Labs (made up of six different research labs); UCSD Comparative Cognition Lab; Research on Autism and Development Laboratory (RAD Lab); Center for Research in Mathematics and Science Education (CRMSE) at San Diego State University; and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI).

You may have encountered these researchers in the Fleet's galleries encouraging participation in their experiments. Thanks to our large number of annual visitors, the Fleet helps researchers obtain a relevant sample size. Visitors to the Fleet have participated in research in the areas of cognitive development, comparative cognition, sensory processing and cultural perceptions around mathematics and science. The results of this collaboration between visitors and researchers have been shared around the world.

"We've done probably 30 published studies at Fleet," estimates David Barner, Ph.D.

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JULY 2 VIP Premiere: Opening of Turtle Odyssey

Free for Luminary
Members

Sea Turtles are some of the most majestic and ancient creatures on Earth. For over 100 million years, they have traversed the seas, surviving multiple mass extinctions and playing critical roles in maintaining healthy, marine food webs. With the turtles guiding us, our crews voyaged the same thousands of kilometers to capture the wonders of their habitats. Sea turtles remind us just how interconnected we all are in this amazing world.

Fleet Science Center

Professor of Psychology & Linguistics at UCSD.

"I am surprised how well this has integrated with my 'in-lab' research. So much so, I've included our efforts at the Fleet in several talks including a talk in Singapore, titled 'Harnessing the motor system for improved cognition,'" commented Leanne Chukoskie, research lead at the RAD lab.

The Fleet's mission is to connect everyone to the power of science. Through research conducted in our galleries, the Fleet acts as the bridge between our community of visitors and science in a very direct way, as well as connecting scientists to the public, giving them participants and an opportunity to grow their science communication skills. Explaining research to a child and their parents can certainly be an opportunity for growth.

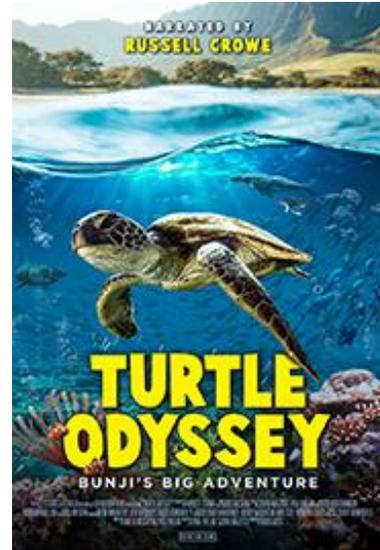
So, next time you're visiting us at the Fleet - say hi to these intrepid researchers. If you and/or your family members fall within the target demographic for the research being conducted, I hope you will choose to participate. It is truly our privilege to work together with our STEM community to expand our collective scientific knowledge.

Sincerely,



Steve Snyder, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

6:30 p.m. Luminary
Reception
7:00 p.m. Film
screening



To RSVP for this event,
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