

# Pine Point School

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## Service Learning Highlight



### Service Learning Project Spotlight: Project Paleontology

-students work together at the Mystic Aquarium to sketch an archeological site on a grid, then locate, measure, and label finds  
-curriculum links: mathematics, science, history, art, and English

An official partnership between [Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration](#) and Pine Point School was formally announced in April '04. The two organizations have entered into a collaboration in the education and promotion of knowledge about ocean life, and Pine Point will serve as a laboratory school for the Aquarium & Institute. The partnership was kicked-off in April with a lecture series hosted by Pine Point that featured famed oceanology explorer Dr. Robert Ballard and dolphin expert Dr. Kathleen Dudzinski.

**More about:**

[Service Learning](#)

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### Project Paleontology -6th Grade Explorations in Archeology

One of the first activities, *Project Paleontology*, took place in early May. Over the years a number of animals have been brought to the Aquarium to be nursed back to health. Those that succumbed were buried on the Aquarium's grounds. Under the direction of Steve Brown, our 6th grade students, as part of their archeology unit, set grids, made reference maps, exposed, removed, labeled and then stored the bones in accordance with accepted paleontology procedures.



Steve Brown with Allen '07

### Reflective Poems

*Poem*, Abbey Reiser

*digging*, Dana McGuire

*Fresco*, Millie Moore

### Photos

[The Exploration](#)

[Drawing from Life](#)

[Back at Pine Point](#)



A skull partially uncovered



A Male Stellar Sealion



Cleaning bones

### The Exploration

(click on an image for a larger view)



Learning how to use forms



Measuring meter squares



Clearing grass and soil



Working in grids



Brushing away soil



Sifting through dirt



Uncovering bones



Skulls uncovered

### Drawing from life

-a study of Steller Sealions





**Back at Pine Point**



Cleaning bones



Soaking in Bleach

**Reflective Poems**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Poem</b> by <u>Abbey Reiser</u> Starting from scratch Getting dirty and involved Working with the trowel and paintbrushes Finding and discovering Hot and sweaty with aching backs Cleaning and finding Smacking the bugs Taking time Pictures and newspapers Taking the bones out Giggling and laughter Wrapping up with sunburned shoulders Going home knowing we have uncovered and discovered</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>digging</b> by <u>Dana McGuire</u> digging, digging, hands grimy mind involved friends surrounding me, like bugs, roots every root I strangle I sift I look for an unpredictable surprise like a present waiting to be opened I lose myself in a world where I am so concentrated not even a crash on the nearby highway can take me out of</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fresco</b> by <u>Millie Moore</u> He swam in a big tank quiet and serene his sleek gray back with a short fin gliding through the water.  He never really swam he more of flew around his tank concentrating on his sanctuary instead of the people surrounding his private home.</p>
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