

Do you like to go to the beach? NOAA protects the coasts and beaches to make sure the sand and water are clean for you to play in. NOAA studies the fish in the ocean to see how many there are. NOAA also protects whales, dolphins, and other marine mammals like sea lions and seals.

Do you want to know if it is going to rain or snow today? Ask NOAA! NOAA does weather forecasts too!

Here are a few NOAA Web sites to learn more about NOAA:

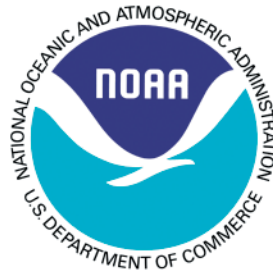
<http://www.noaa.gov>

<http://www.tas.noaa.gov>

<http://www.noaawatch.noaa.gov>

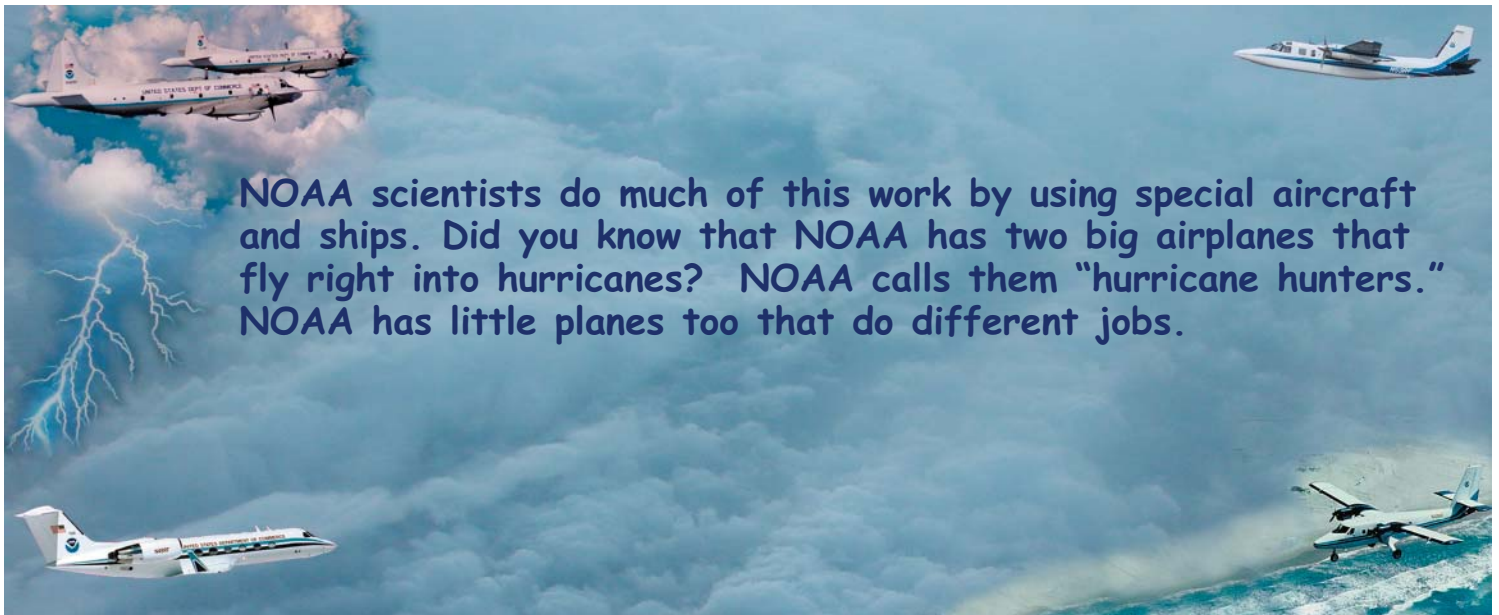
<http://www.education.noaa.gov>

<http://www.oma.noaa.gov>

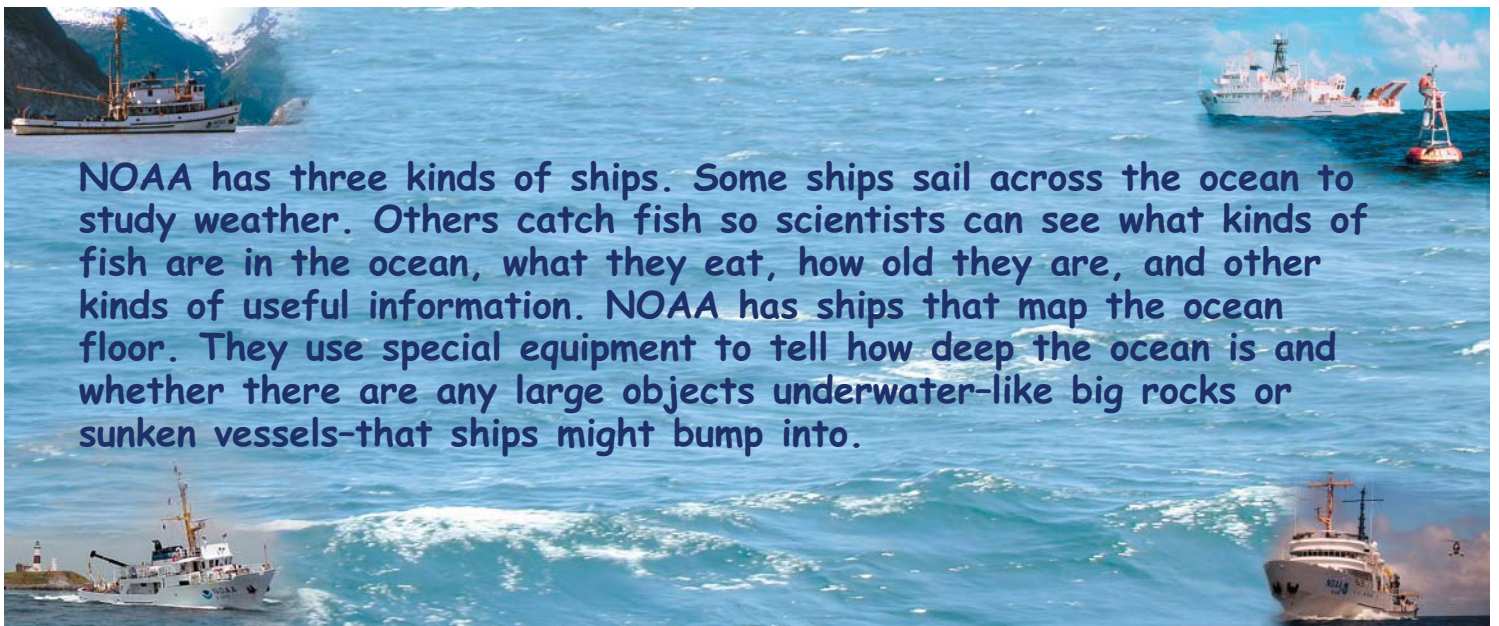


What is NOAA?

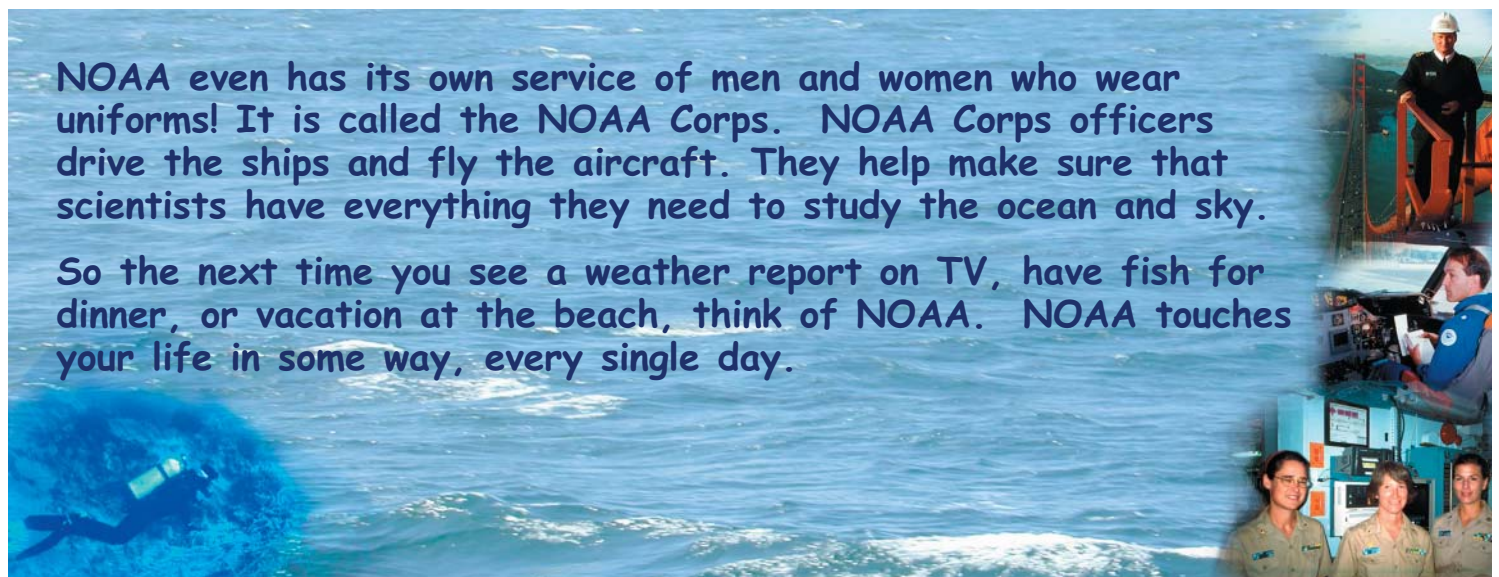
NOAA stands for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. NOAA scientists study the skies and the oceans.



NOAA scientists do much of this work by using special aircraft and ships. Did you know that NOAA has two big airplanes that fly right into hurricanes? NOAA calls them "hurricane hunters." NOAA has little planes too that do different jobs.



NOAA has three kinds of ships. Some ships sail across the ocean to study weather. Others catch fish so scientists can see what kinds of fish are in the ocean, what they eat, how old they are, and other kinds of useful information. NOAA has ships that map the ocean floor. They use special equipment to tell how deep the ocean is and whether there are any large objects underwater-like big rocks or sunken vessels-that ships might bump into.



NOAA even has its own service of men and women who wear uniforms! It is called the NOAA Corps. NOAA Corps officers drive the ships and fly the aircraft. They help make sure that scientists have everything they need to study the ocean and sky.

So the next time you see a weather report on TV, have fish for dinner, or vacation at the beach, think of NOAA. NOAA touches your life in some way, every single day.