

Point Lay - Mystic Beluga Educational & Cultural Exchange

Robert Suydam and Leslie Pierce, North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management (NSB-DWM), Barrow, Alaska

Tracy Romano, Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, Connecticut

Julia Neakok, Kimberly Neakok, Dorthy Pikok, Leslie Stalker, Martha Upicksoun, and Janelle Young, Point Lay Students, Point Lay, Alaska

Breanna Davies, Kyle Sebastian, Sarah Shourds, Toie Tolbert, and Tiffany Williams, Mashantucket Pequot Students, Mystic, Connecticut



Janelle
Feb 2010 student



Leslie
Feb 2010 student

All students on Beluga Encounter



Kim, Martha, Julia and Dorthy ready for seal necropsy



Naku, the beluga whale at Mystic Aquarium



Julia, Dorthy, Martha and Kim with California Sea Lion



All students and chaperones at Penguin Encounter

PURPOSE

Students from Point Lay traveled to Mystic, Connecticut, in February and October of 2010. The purpose of this exchange was :

- 1 - For the young adults in Point Lay and the Mashantucket Pequot Nation to learn more about beluga whales
- 2 - To encourage a cultural exchange between Point Lay and the Mashantucket Pequot Nation
- 3 - To encourage the young people to pursue a career in science



New York City!



Chaperones, JoAnne and Willard Neakok, with museum guide Candace Wallingford

ACTIVITIES

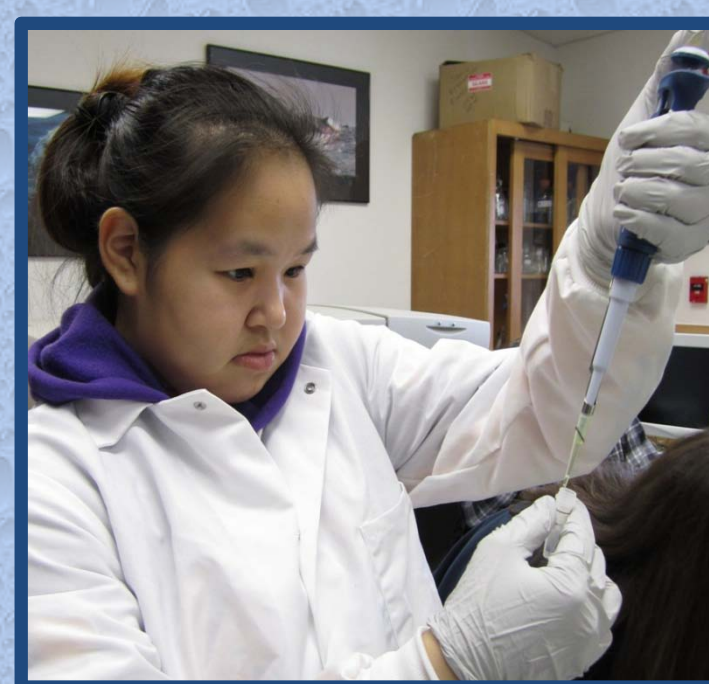
- Beluga Biology and Research
- Beluga Blood Lab
- Beluga DNA Lab
- Other marine animal biology
- Mashantucket Pequot Museum
- Tour, Dancing & Social
- Aquarium/Museum Career Info
- Beach Field Trip
- Mystic Seaport – Whaling Ship
- American Museum of Natural History

OUTCOMES

- Student interest in college and science increased
- Possible student summer internship at Mystic
- Possible college credit
- Possibility of Mashantucket students visiting Point Lay



Kim loads gel



Martha pipetting DNA



Kim and Julia encountering a beluga



Dorthy and Julia loading gel



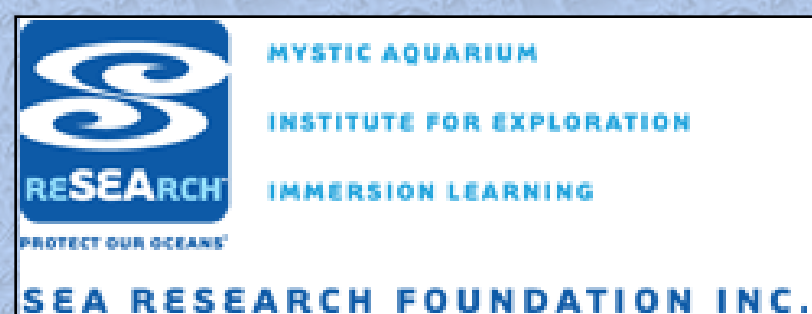
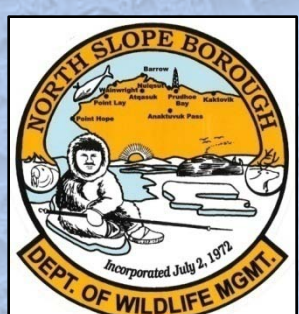
Students in Mashantucket Pequot Museum Tower



Students meet Naku the beluga



October 2010 Exchange students at Closing Dinner



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