

# OCEAN LITERACY

## *Seven Essential Principles*

- 1 The Earth has one big ocean.*
- 2 The ocean shapes the Earth.*
- 3 The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate.*
- 4 The ocean makes Earth habitable.*
- 5 The ocean supports diversity of life and ecosystems.*
- 6 The ocean and humans are interconnected.*
- 7 The ocean is largely unexplored.*

The Seven Essential Principles of Ocean Literacy were developed through a national conversation sponsored by National Geographic, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Centers for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence, the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the College of Exploration, University of Southern California Sea Grant and the National Marine Educators Association. For more information, visit: [www.coexploration.org/oceanliteracy](http://www.coexploration.org/oceanliteracy).



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