

A day in the life of...

Name: Katy Seward

Job Title: *Native Marine and Otter Specialist* at the Blue Planet Aquarium, Cheshire Oaks - www.blueplanetaquarium.com.

Responsibilities:

I look after the Asian Short Clawed Otters and the native marine tanks (these include Sharks and Rays). I also run Blue Planet Aquarium's conservation group Blue Watch. The Zoological team primarily work to ensure the health and well being of the animals that we have.

Daily routine:

Between 8am and 10am we make sure that the exhibits look good in time for opening. This includes cleaning windows inside and out, water changes (to ensure good water quality) and general tidying up. From 10am for the rest of the working day we work on exhibit developments, carry out essential feeds, water tests, research and education and work towards conservation projects.

How I got here :

I did a degree in Zoology with Marine Zoology at Bangor University. Initially I was employed as a visitor services presenter at Blue Planet Aquarium and volunteered on the Zoological department until a full time position on the team became available.

Best bits:

I love working with animals and to get to do that everyday as my job is a privilege. I love talking to visitors about them and educating them about the animals we have and encouraging them to become interested and learn more about them. It's satisfying to know that someone has gone away with a new found interest of an animal and gives me hope for their conservation.

Worst bits:

There are always going to be bad bits with any job, working with animals can be very stressful, but the good bits definitely out weigh the bad.

