The field of marine science is exciting and fun! So, what makes a good marine scientist? What kinds of jobs do marine scientists do? And what should you be doing now to prepare to become a marine scientist?

**Who Are Marine Scientists?**
Marine scientists come from all over the world! Each one brings his or her own ideas to the job, but there are some characteristics that most marine scientists share:

- Marine scientists are curious – they notice the world around them!
- Marine scientists are creative – they dream up experiments to answer questions.
- Marine scientists are “go getters” – they often work long hours, and sometimes work at night in rough weather.

**What Do Marine Scientists Do?**
A career as a marine scientist offers many chances to travel and explore the world! You can find marine scientists:

- Working on ships
- Working as laboratory technicians on shore
- Managing fisheries
- Educating others about marine conservation

But that isn't all! Do you go the beach or enjoy sailing? Or do you like eating seafood? Those are just a few ways that people use the ocean. Marine scientists help ensure that everyone will be able to enjoy the ocean for many more years!

**Becoming a Marine Scientist**
Now that you know a little bit about what marine scientists are like and what they do, are you thinking about becoming a marine scientist? Here are some ideas to get you started!

- Become comfortable in the water
- Learn everything you can about the marine environment
- Become SCUBA certified
- Learn how to drive a boat
- Study hard in all your classes
- In high school and college, take classes in oceanography, marine biology, or marine science.
- Take advantage of the many opportunities to volunteer or work in the marine science field!
- Learn how to tie knots – this comes in handy when you work on ships!
Some Knots that are Commonly Used On Ships

**Figure 8 knot:** Used as a stop knot

**Bowline knot:** Used to secure instruments to a ship or a dock

**Sheet Bend knot:** Used to connect two ropes together

**Slippery Hitch:** A quick-release knot used to temporarily tie down equipment

Knots in Action – Can you figure out which knot is which?