



Ocean Spirits Inc.

PRESS RELEASE:

Trial Scuba Session for the "Hatchling Club", a week long summer camp provided for 6 to 16 years old.

July 24. 2003: Ocean Spirits in conjunction with Aquanauts Grenada provided for a trial dive session at Blue Horizons Cottage hotel pool.

"Ocean Spirits is a registered, non-profit Environmental Organisation based in Grenada. From its inception in 1999, Ocean Spirits has focused primarily on the protection of marine turtles found throughout Grenada's coastal waters and beaches. Today, it operates an extensive research programme that spans 6 months of the year; manages a nation wide education initiative that to date has reached over 4000 students and continually develops the idea that there are no better stewards of Grenada's turtles than the communities that have historically relied upon them..

To compliment Ocean Spirits existing education programme and through sponsorship from the British High Commission of Grenada, 2003 marked the formal creation of the Hatchling Club, a 1 week long summer camp provided for 6 to 16 year olds. The camp has been designed to provide a forum for learning about Grenada's rich environment through the use of an array of exciting activities to fend off school holiday boredom! The camp included workshops that covered the importance and uses of Grenada's natural environment; the problems and how we can make a difference; pollution and the global perspective; biodiversity - national and international legislation for its protection; sea turtles as a flagship species; the environment and tourism; future opportunities locally and worldwide and the undertaking of individual environmental projects. 47 students from River Sallee and Rosehill participated and field trips on each day of the camp included Trial SCUBA sessions; field trips to places of agricultural importance: organic banana plantation, Lake Antoine; Belmont Estate; a visit to the Chocolate and Coca Cola Factories and a visit to Grenada's primary turtle nesting beach at Levera.



Today as we move into the 21st Century, marine turtles face more than ever the foreboding prospect of extinction. Legal unsustainable fisheries, incidental by catch,

loss of habitat and the harvesting of eggs have all contributed to the demise of turtle species in the Caribbean region and throughout the entire globe,

Working together with local communities, government departments and other international scientific bodies, Ocean Spirits hopes to ensure that the spectacle of a nesting or foraging turtle remains a key component of Grenada's uniquely vibrant biological diversity

If you would like more information about any of Ocean Spirits' programmes please visit,

www.oceanspirits.org or contact us at info@oceanspirits.org or Ocean Spirits inc., P.O. Box 1373, Grand Anse, St. George's."