



ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL

BAJA TEACHER TRAINING

Professional Development &
Field Science Using the NGSS*

EXPLORE THE DEPTHS WITH EPI

On Ecology Project International's (EPI) Baja Teacher Training program, you'll be immersed in one of the great sanctuaries for marine life—the Gulf of California. Jacques Cousteau once called it the 'world's aquarium,' and it is the perfect lens through which to deepen your knowledge and application of the NGSS.

Explore a brilliant diversity of marine and desert life through working on critical environmental research and conservation projects—all while learning strategies to help your students observe, question, collect data, discuss, and critically analyze the world around them. Dive head-first into the NGSS framework using Baja's rich, real-world phenomena to develop lessons and unit plans that will captivate your students and kindle their passion for science.

On EPI's Baja Teacher Training program, we've built in time for you to apply what you learn. You'll increase your comfort with lesson planning using the NGSS as well as teaching science in and out of the classroom. By contributing to ongoing studies with EPI instructors and research partners, you'll develop the skills to become both a better science *teacher* and a better *scientist*.

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SAMPLE ITINERARY

- Day 1:** Arrive in Baja and meet your EPI instructors before shuttling to EPI's campus in La Paz
- Day 2:** Set up camp and explore your home base in the Gulf of California; practice snorkeling
- Day 3:** Snorkel while conducting underwater censuses and gathering data on marine invertebrates
- Day 4:** Head out into the field for student activity modeling, professional development and exploration
- Day 5:** Participate in coral restoration; discuss educational frameworks, and take a stroll along La Paz's famous Malecón boardwalk
- Day 6:** Plunge into La Paz bay, a safe haven and nursery for whale sharks (weather-dependent)
- Day 7:** Final group reflections and discussion; depart



B A J A TEACHER TRAINING

THE GULF IS YOUR CLASSROOM

EPI's Baja Teacher Training will give you the unique opportunity to assist with conservation research and work in this UNESCO World Heritage Site, home to 39% of the Earth's marine mammal species. Here you'll find stunning beaches, red rock cliffs, abundant bird life, reptiles, and desert plants.

SKILL BUILDING

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Read and interpret the NGSS for classroom use
- Create NGSS-aligned lessons using the 5E Learning Cycle
- Teach science in or out of the classroom
- Use research-supported teaching tools and strategies to bolstering development of students' science and engineering practices (SEPs)
- Identify and collaborate with research and conservation partners in your community

FIND YOUR PHENOMENA

The desert rockscapes and cerulean seas of Baja will inspire you and your cohort. At your camp on Balandra Beach, you'll have time for collaboration, planning, and writing lessons. You'll also have space to share your teaching challenges, best practices, and opportunities to enhance science education. The course culminates with your presentation of a lesson or unit plan created for your classroom, and you will return home with a template for creating future lessons and/or unit plans on your own, as well as resources to support and guide you on your continuing teacher journey.

PROGRAM LENGTH

7-day

DATES

March 28-April 3

TUITION

\$1,895 (plus airfare)

ACCREDITATION

4 Graduate Credits

(Registration fees apply)

