



ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS TEACHER TRAINING

Professional Development &
Field Science Using the NGSS*

EXPLORE THE DEPTHS WITH EPI

On EPI's Galapagos Islands Teacher Training, you'll travel to the cradle of evolution theory, the enchanted islands of the Galapagos. The islands' volcanic origins, isolation, and seat at the confluence of three ocean currents have all contributed to their renown as "the world's natural laboratory." The islands are the perfect location to re-ignite your scientific wonder and deepen your knowledge of the NGSS.

From our camp in the misty highlands of Santa Cruz Island, we'll voyage to the beaches of Isabela Island. To help researchers, you'll monitor giant tortoise population on Santa Cruz and conduct snorkel surveys of protected reefs, but the real pearl that you'll bring home is a renewed sense of inspiration.

You'll dive head-first into the NGSS framework using rich, real-world phenomena to develop lessons and curricula that will captivate your students and kindle their passion for science. You'll learn strategies for helping your students conduct independent scientific research and for further integrating NGSS into your lesson planning. By contributing to ongoing studies with EPI instructors and research partners, you'll develop the skills to be both a better science *teacher* and a better *scientist*.

*NGSS is a registered trademark of Achieve. Neither Achieve nor the lead states and partners that developed the NGSS were involved in the production of this product and do not endorse it.



SAMPLE ITINERARY

- Days 1-2:** Arrive in Quito, where you'll stay at a local hotel for a good night's sleep. Catch an early morning flight to the Galapagos, then travel by chartered bus to the highlands.
- Days 3-4:** Work with Galapagos National Park rangers to locate wild giant tortoises and collect biometric data. Then, restore habitat for native plants & animals by helping remove invasive plant species.
- Day 5:** Explore the Charles Darwin Foundation and visit Lonesome George's monument.
- Days 6-7:** Snorkel in the Galapagos Marine Reserve and explore the hypersaline lagoons off the coast of Isabela Island. Create a framework for integrating your newly acquired NGSS skills into the classroom.
- Day 8:** Celebrate your completed course and the research and conservation service you've done for this globally celebrated Park.
- Day 9:** Return to Quito, and then home.



GALAPAGOS ISLANDS TEACHER TRAINING

YOUR HOME IN THE PACIFIC

The Galapagos Islands are a world-renowned archipelago off Ecuador's coast, and the surrounding waters are protected as the Galapagos Marine Reserve. These dramatic islands are home to an abundance of uniquely-adapted terrestrial and marine species, active volcanoes, and endemic icons like the giant tortoise and Darwin's finches. With EPI, you'll have the opportunity to help protect the Galapagos Islands by monitoring wild giant tortoises. As part of an exclusive partnership with the Galapagos National Park, you'll also restore habitat and eradicate invasive species. Finally, develop a field-based research project from your collected tortoise data—all while sharing challenges, lesson ideas, and opportunities with your cohort of fellow teachers.

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 methods, tools, and strategies for supporting students in growing their science and engineering practices
- Identify and collaborate with research and conservation partners available in your community

ISLAND HOP

After finishing your field work, your group will visit Isabela Island, the largest island in the Galapagos and a snorkeling paradise. In the crystal waters swirling beneath Sierra Negra, you might see penguins, blue-footed boobies, sea turtles, and whales.

PROGRAM LENGTH

9-day

DATES

July 18-26, 2020

TUITION

\$3,495 (plus airfare)

ACCREDITATION

4 Graduate Credits



(Registration fees apply)



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