On Tuesday, April 29th over 350 educators and students were able to participate in a unique learning opportunity that took place at the Caterpillar Visitors Center.

Chris Fischer, OCEARCH Founding Chairman and Expedition Leader, met with students and educators from Metamora Grade School (7th and 8th grade classes), Mossville Grade School (3rd grade classes), and the Crossroads Area Home School Association.

Each session began with Chris asking two questions - Does the ocean affect you in Peoria? and Why should people in Peoria care about the ocean? Chris Fischer explained that, among other things, the ocean affects the world’s water supply, the fish and seafood supply and weather patterns. Therefore, we should all care about the ocean, no matter where we live in the world.

Chris shared examples of leadership and collaboration between unlikely partners who helped to promote OCEARCH. One example is scientists and their PhD students working hand in hand with the OCEARCH crew of mariners and fishermen. The fishermen know how to catch the sharks and the scientists know how to conduct research, tag and track them. Another example is Caterpillar’s corporate sponsorship of OCEARCH, which allows Caterpillar to team with one of its Marine engine customers to further education and preserve the environment. As a result, OCEARCH is able to conduct expeditions around the world, powered by Cat® marine engines. Everyone involved in this work shares two passions - the sustainability of our planet/oceans and education.

Investing in education is critical to sustainable development. OCEARCH is a leader in collaborative open source research, and they make their research and educational materials available to the general public. One such example of this is the near real-time, Cat powered Global Shark Tracker that allows the public to observe the sharks at the same time scientists see them. Another educational tool the public can use is a STEM curriculum developed by OCEARCH, in partnership with Landry’s.

Overall, the students and educators were excited about all they saw and learned. The OCEARCH team was happy to meet students in Peoria.

Thanks to all who were able to attend!

For additional information on OCEARCH, educator resources, the Cat powered Global Shark Tracker, videos and much more please visit their website: [http://www.ocearch.org](http://www.ocearch.org)
June 30
Caterpillar Visitors Center - Caterpillar Diesels/Peoria Cats basketball team exhibit ends

July 2014
Caterpillar Visitors Center – a new exhibit opens, to be announced at a later date

June 2014
Caterpillar Visitors Center product floor - new Cat equipment arrives
(336E Hybrid Hydraulic Excavator, 908H2 Wheel Loader, D5K2 Tractor,
420F IT Backhoe Loader, CB24B Utility Compactor and a CT660 Vocational
Truck (dump truck)

Contact Us:
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To start receiving the Caterpillar Visitors Center Educator Newsletter,

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