



The “Progetto Subacqua per l’Ambiente” (Scuba Diving for the Environment Project) presents: Under the Deep Blue Sea



The Genoa Aquarium, which first opened at the end of 1993, welcomes 1,200,000 visitors each year; 150,000 of these are students. Throughout the aquarium's more than ten years of operation, the aquarium staff has worked hard to raise the general public's awareness regarding conservation and responsible management of the aquatic environment. In particular, initiatives for the schools have been developed with the collaboration of ruling bodies and the support of competent government departments.

During the early months of 2000, a task force called “Progetto Subacquea per l’Ambiente” (The Scuba Diving for the Environment Project) was set up at the Genoa Aquarium, with the participation of principle organizations operating in the scuba diving sector on an Italian national level, Assosub, regional administrations, and competent government departments. During recent years, scuba diving has become an important tool for understanding and respecting the marine environment. For this reason, the activities connected with this project have been designed to attract the interest of schools and families in particular.

Beginning with the 2003/2004 school year, a teaching kit that will make it possible to “go scuba diving” and explore marine ecosystems will be made available to middle schools. Each kit will contain a

teacher's manual, 50 students' books, 4 posters, 1 video tape, and 50 CD Roms with interactive games and technical guides. This educational experience aims at initiating young people to a responsible approach to scuba diving with respect for the environment, and at providing the opportunity to explore the principle Mediterranean ecosystems. It is an excellent tool for developing an aware approach to the sea.