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An Inside Look at the Kids' Zone at New Save the Bay Hamilton Family Aquarium

Planning ahead for activities with the kiddos this summer? Look no further than this new aquarium in downtown Newport.

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by Tabitha Pereira



Kids' Zone at Save the Bay Hamilton Family Aquarium. Photo courtesy of Save the Bay.

Recently opened at the end of March, Save the Bay's Hamilton Family Aquarium is the next day trip activity to add to your Newport outings list. Complete with a diverse collection of animals and plants found in Narragansett Bay, you can expect an engaging, and educational, experience at the new downtown Newport location.

A bigger and more centrally located spot than the organization's old aquarium on Easton's Beach (which closed its doors this past October), the Save the Bay Hamilton Family Aquarium includes a wide variety of habitats found in Narragansett Bay, from the rocky and sandy shores to an eelgrass habitat and an exploration of the deeper waters of the Bay.

Among the improvements to the aquarium is the expansion and revitalization of the Kids' Zone, which was part of Save the Bay's old Exploration Center but is now larger and includes more attractions for the little ones, and their parents, to enjoy.



Arts and Crafts area at the Kids' Zone. Photo courtesy of Save the Bay.

Some of the activities available at the Kids' Zone include an Arts & Crafts area with hands-on activities, a screen in the floor that offers an underwater view of Narragansett Bay marine life, shelving and drawers that contain "biofacts" — biological artifacts such as skulls, shells and bones, and more attractions that will serve as an exciting and educational experience for the kiddos. Plus, you'll also find benches and floor cushions inside the zone, which offer a place for kids to make friends and play with other young guests.

"We're thrilled to have BankNewport's generous support for the Kids' Zone at Save The Bay's Hamilton Family Aquarium, which will educate and inspire generations of stewards for Narragansett Bay," stated Topher Hamblett, executive director of Save The Bay, in response to BankNewport's generous contributions to the Kids' Zone at the aquarium.



From left to right: James Farrar from Farrar & Associates, BankNewport Chairman of the Board Peter Capodilupo, BankNewport President & CEO Jack Murphy, Save The Bay Executive Director Topher Hamblett and BankNewport Charitable Foundation Chair James Wright. Photo credit: Kim Fuller Photography for BankNewport.

The aquarium is located at 23 America's Cup Ave, First Floor in downtown Newport and is open 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thursday through Monday. [Visit the website](#) to learn more.