

# Do dolphins

sleep?

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**Questions and Answers**

**About the Sea**

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# Q.

I'm interested in a career in **marine science**. What should I do?

# A.

There are many marine-related careers. Marine biologists study the plants and animals living in marine habitats and their relationship with the changing environment. Oceanographers specialize in several areas. Physical oceanographers, for instance, study waves and currents, while geological oceanographers study the sea floor and its origins. Oceanographic engineers design and build research equipment, including submarines, research ships and electronic instruments.

If you know that you're interested in a marine-related career, you can volunteer to work at a local aquarium, zoo or veterinarian's office. In school, be sure to study hard in your computer, science and math classes, which will help prepare you for college classes. Develop your writing skills; these will be important in any career you choose.

Becoming a marine biologist or research oceanographer means earning a master's or doctoral degree, which takes from two to five years after an undergraduate college degree. However, many positions, including those for computer specialists, technicians and administrative assistants, can be obtained without advanced degrees. There are also many other marine-related careers to consider. Here are just a few:

- commercial fishermen
- shipbuilders
- marine science teachers
- coastal engineers
- marine science writers
- marine architects
- photographers
- marine science librarians
- aquatic veterinarians
- maritime lawyers
- fisheries managers
- cartographers (map makers)
- harbor masters
- underwater filmmakers

