

Purpose

To give students with disabilities the opportunity to meet same-aged peers and build knowledge and skills in the area of the Marine Sciences, boating, and/or recreation.

To increase marine skills and work experience skills in order to foster maximum independence and success for entering the work force

To provide hands-on-training to students in a 'real world' environment

To increase productive leisure activities and develop skills needed for self determination, self management and self advocacy



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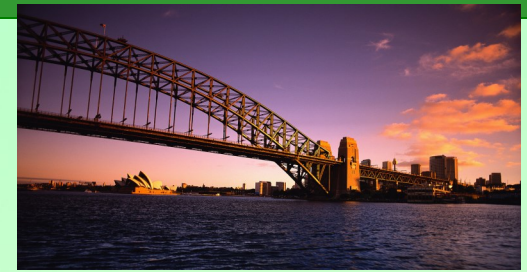
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Project BRIDGE Teacher

Shake A Leg Miami

Mr. Harry R. Horgan
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If TTY assistance is needed please access Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TTY) at (305) 995 2530



Project **B.R.I.D.G.E.**

*Building
Recreational
Independence and
Developing
Gateways to
Employment*



SHAKE-A-LEG
MIAMI

What is Project B.R.I.D.G.E.?

Project B.R.I.D.G.E (Building Recreational Independence and Developing Gateways to Employment) is a partnership between Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Shake-a-Leg Miami to provide students with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities with specialized instruction in the field of Marine Sciences, boating, and recreation. This Project is supported by the Nature Links consortium, a group dedicated to increasing access for all individuals with disabilities to all the recreational/environmental experiences that Miami has to offer.

Eligibility Criteria

Students must:

- Be 18-22 years of age.
- Be interested in the Marine Sciences, boating, or recreation.
- Have a desire to develop work skills related to Marine Sciences, boating, or recreation.
- Have parent support for transitioning to Employment in the field of Marine Science, boating, and recreation.
- Have the behavioral/social maturity conducive to a marine/vocational environment.
- Be able to adequately maintain personal self-care and hygiene.
- Be Level Three Swim-Tested.
- Be able to follow simple instruction.
- Be able to work in groups.

Benefits

- ✦ Exposure to the Marine Sciences, boating, and recreational activities
- ✦ Motor Skills acquisition
- ✦ Water Safety skills acquisition
- ✦ Fun and Relaxation
- ✦ Focus on Vocational Skills
- ✦ Employment Support
- ✦ Partnership between students, parents, teacher, and agency
- ✦ CPR and First Aid Certified Trained Staff

Project BRIDGE

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Or
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Supported by...

NATURE LINKS



Program Goals

- ⇒ To provide a smooth transition from high school to work that allows for the on-the-job training.
- ⇒ To provide a learning environment that allows students who are 18-22 years of age to learn and grow socially among their peers.
- ⇒ To utilize the rich resources provided through Shake-a-Leg that exposes students to the Marine Sciences, boating, and recreation.
- ⇒ To enable the students the opportunity to secure employment in the areas of Marine Science, boating, recreation, or the environment.
- ⇒ To open avenues to greater independence.
- ⇒ To expose students to the excitement and thrill of experiential education.



Project BRIDGE student restoring a porthole