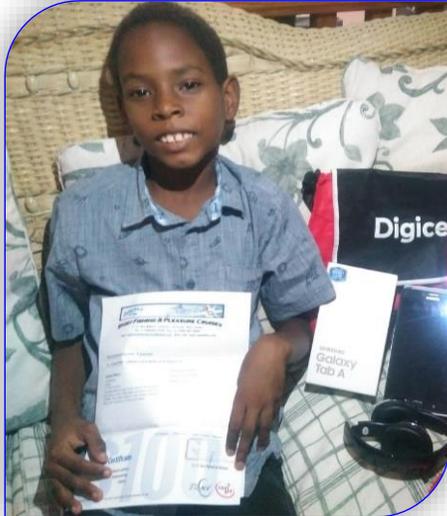


Shaynne Edgar
Age: 10
Grade: 5
School: Camille Henry Memorial School



Dolphinarium Essay Competition 1st Place – Primary School

Free the Dolphins

Dolphins are very beautiful and intelligent mammals. They are aquatic mammals but they cannot breathe underwater. Dolphins are quite fast they can swim from three/eight miles per hour. There are up to thirty eight species of dolphin. They give birth to their young and their babies are called calves. Adult dolphins can grow up to eight/nine feet in length. We are mammals just like dolphins are.

Dolphins should be free and not kept in captivity. They get very aggressive from captivity. In many countries dolphin parks have closed down including in Antigua. The dolphins in those parks were not properly cared for. In the parks they get stressed this is what causes their anger. When they are aggressive they can seriously hurt you or other dolphins. At Gulf World a dolphin once bit a trainer in captivity and my aunty saw the scars on the dolphins at a dolphin park in the Cayman Islands. They most likely got the scars from biting each other. For this to stop we need to free the dolphins because they need space to roam.

Instead of going to dolphin parks you can go see them on a boat where they look very majestic. If you get close enough to them they will do amazing tricks before your eyes. They are very playful and you can get in the water with them.

Dolphin parks don't only harm them they harm us to. In Antigua the dolphin park workers blocked a drain and because of that when it rained a town got flooded and people started to riot. Now they are trying to come to us but we shouldn't let them. A lot of people think its fine because nothing happens to them. This is not true they ill-treat them in different ways. It is so depressing to see them in cages. Let the dolphins be free!!!