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Mote Living Reef Exhibit at the NOAA Eco-Discovery Center • 35 East Quay Road • Key West, FL 33040-6624 • Phone: (305) 296-3551 • Fax: (305) 296-2325

August 19, 2011

Hello Parents and Guardians!

So, your child is going on a SeaSnooze Overnight at Mote Marine Laboratory . . . we know you wish you could come too! SeaSnoozes are a fun, educational experience for the participants. As educators and Mote staff, our first priority though is your child's safety. Here's how you can help us:

Please complete the attached **Medical Treatment Authorization/Video Release** form, which collects their emergency contact information and tells us about any pre-existing conditions (like food allergies) that our instructors should be aware of. This form also gives our Mote staff permission to perform basic first aid and CPR in the event of an emergency, and to record the fun through pictures and video.

Important: The Medical Treatment Authorization/Video Release needs to be signed and notarized. (Notary publics are commonly found at banks and post offices.)

Next, please review the **Participant Agreement** with your child and ask them to acknowledge that they understand our expectations of their behavior with their signature. Then sign this form yourself.

Both the **Medical Treatment Authorization/Video Release** and the **Participant Agreement** need to be returned to your Group Leader more than 2 weeks before the overnight.

What will your child need on the overnight? Each participant should bring the following items:

- Sleeping bag and pillow (a small, thin foam sleeping pad is optional)
- Water bottle (filled with water only)
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.)
- Pajamas and slippers (no one is allowed to be barefoot in the Aquarium, even at night)
- Change of clothes for the next day
- Sweatshirt or jacket (as some activities will take place outdoors)
- A canvas for our Fabric Art activity: a white pillowcase or plain T-shirt will work well.

Please label all items with their name and the name of the group. All of their items should arrive in one small suitcase or duffel, or in a large garbage bag.

The following items are not allowed on our overnights: air mattresses, "heely" sneakers, food, flashlights, personal entertainment devices (e.g. iPods, mp3 players, DVD players). Students may bring cell phones, but will be asked to refrain from using them to play music and games, text, or make calls during the overnight activities.

Mote provides a pizza dinner, nighttime snack, and a continental breakfast. We are happy to

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accommodate special dietary needs, like allergies, if they are brought to our attention ahead of time. We do not allow extra food to be brought in, unless special arrangements have been made prior to the start of the overnight.

The overnight instructor will meet the students and chaperones at the whale fountain directly in front of the Mote Aquarium entrance at 6:30 p.m. Please arrive on time. Pick-up will occur the following morning at 8:30 a.m. in the same location. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions. I can be reached at 941.388.4441, ext. 264 and at miranda@mote.org.

Sincerely,

Miranda Wrobel
Public Programs Coordinator
Mote Marine Laboratory

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