

# Grouper Moon Project

Thursday, Nov. 28 from 3:00 to 5:00 (Grand Cayman) & Friday, Nov. 29 from 3:00 to 5:00 (Cayman Brac)  
*A Professional Development Workshop for Teachers*

## Grouper Education Program

*The Grouper Moon Project is a collaborative conservation program between Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) and the Cayman Islands Department of the Environment (CIDOE), studying Nassau Grouper— a social and ecological corner stone of Caribbean coral reefs. In 2011, we began the implementation of a curriculum designed for both elementary and high school students. This exciting new project focuses on bringing the Nassau Grouper into classrooms through lesson plans and live-feed videos that connect classrooms with scientists in the field.*

### **An Innovative Marine-Sciences Curriculum:**

The curriculum presents a multi-faceted view of the Nassau Grouper and includes historical, scientific, and conservation concepts. The program culminates with live-feed video sessions during the winter spawning event. Students engage with scientists live and underwater, directly from the Little Cayman aggregation site with 7000+ Nassau Grouper, allowing us to bring real world field science into the classroom.



### **Workshop Content:**

*During this afternoon, hands-on workshop, educators will learn the following:*

- How to effectively implement the Grouper Education Program (GEP) curriculum with students in both elementary (Year 4-13) and high school classrooms.
- Working knowledge of the key historical, scientific, and conservation concepts about Nassau Grouper.
- An understanding of the coral reef ecosystem, specifically the vital role that fish diversity and the presence of top predators such as the Nassau Grouper play in maintaining a healthy reef.
- Technical training in utilizing the GEP blog ([www.groupereducation.edublogs.org](http://www.groupereducation.edublogs.org)), the live video-conferencing website, digital video cameras, and your own web camera.
- Educators will also receive access to program and technical support.



## Workshop Details:

- The GEP Workshops are open to all Cayman Island educators. There are a limited number of spaces for educators from other countries.
- Two separate workshops will be held: Thursday, Nov. 28 on Grand Cayman. Location: John Gray High School and Friday, Nov. 29 on Cayman Brac. Location: Spot Bay Primary
- Participants will receive: a complete set of the GEP curriculum and access to ongoing support from REEF scientists and educators.
- Cost to participate: FREE.



To apply, please submit the following registration information to [todd@REEF.org](mailto:todd@REEF.org):  
Name, contact information, grade level and school where you teach, any experience teaching marine sciences, desired workshop location/date, and any additional pertinent information.  
Questions? Contact Todd Bohannon at [todd@REEF.org](mailto:todd@REEF.org) or by phone, +1 (206) 920-1402.

**Please share this announcement with others who may be interested.**

*The GEP was developed to complement the research and scientific efforts of the Grouper Moon Project ([www.REEF.org/groupermoonproject](http://www.REEF.org/groupermoonproject)). Grouper Moon educator, Todd Bohannon, along with Grouper Moon scientists Dr. Brice Semmens (Scripps Institution of Oceanography), Dr. Christy Pattengill-Semmens (REEF), and Bradley Johnson (CIDOE), have led the educational effort. Activities were developed in consultation with teachers, Verity Redrup and Brenda Bryce, at Cayman Prep and High School on Grand Cayman, and Cynthia Shaw, author of the youth fictional book, Grouper Moon. The education program of the Grouper Moon Project is graciously supported by the Ip Family.*

