On Saturday, my mum and I travelled on the bus to the National Marine Aquarium, Plymouth to see all the beautiful sea creatures. We wanted to get there early because of the long queues.

I’ve been wanting to go for weeks but mum said that we had to wait for the school holidays to arrive. I’ve always been fascinated by sea creatures and I love looking at the pictures in books of all the different kinds of sea creatures. My favourite is the octopus, the way they crawl across the ground is really funny. We needed to make sure that we could get the bus on time, so I looked online at the timetable and planned to leave at quarter past seven – it’s so early! Sleepily, we staggered to the bus stop and caught the bus into Birmingham. After an hour, we eventually reached the Sea Life Centre.

First, we paid for our tickets and got our maps. The lady was very friendly behind the desk and because I was so polite, I got an octopus sticker! Next, we made our way into the ‘Plymouth Sound’ rock pool with star fish and shallow water creatures. I got to stroke a baby stingray – I was incredibly nervous because I’ve been told about stingrays before and their poison but there was nothing to worry about! Its skin was really silky as it glided past me.

After we had inspected at the other creatures it was time to head down to the Eddystone Reef. The glass was absolutely huge! There were so many different varieties of fish swimming happily around, it was mesmerising! My favourite part was seeing the stingrays making their way up the glass – their mouths are so funny when they’re swimming, it looks like their talking. I think that stingrays are becoming my new favourite sea creature!

Finally, we made our way to the Atlantic Ocean tank where there are loads of species of sharks. Did you know that that tank holds over 2.5 million litres of sea water? That’s a lot of water in one place – I hope the glass doesn’t break (don’t worry, mum assured me it wouldn’t)! Each shark was fascinating. They had their own personality and characteristics.

It was a fantastic day and I learnt so much. For example, there are 230,000 known species of animals who live underwater and jellyfish have been round 650 million years, meaning they have been around longer than the dinosaurs! There have been so many interesting facts that I’ve learnt but most of all, I know that we need to take better care of our oceans through reducing global warming. I will make sure that I keep turning any lights and plugs off if I’m not using them.

What I enjoyed most was seeing the Sharks in their tank. I loved the way they were swimming round and interacting with each other. Above all else, I learnt that there are so many wonderful and mysterious creatures under our waves. I love the fact that every type of fish is so different in colour, size and shape. I loved my day and I can’t wait to go back again soon!