Children's Maritime Museum Activity Center is a surprisingly happy place full of exciting programs designed for kids to experience human history and culture. Children's Maritime Museum Activity Center is a surprisingly happy place full of exciting programs designed for kids to experience human history and culture. The main attractions of the Research Institute are the relics excavated from under the sea, including old vessels that had been sunken for over a millennium. Reproduction of old relics, studies of regional maritime exchanges and folk life in the ancient period are also among the major interests of the Research Institute. The distinguished achievements made by the Research Institute in these areas are provided to the general public via various exhibitions, education and support programs.

Outdoor Exhibition

Outdoor Exhibitions are located at a site giving a scenic coastal view, the Outdoor Exhibition is designed to offer visitors a rare opportunity to have a tour to various traditional Korean maritime history and culture. The sea is a museum full of mystery and vividness of human history. National Research Institute of Maritime Cultural Heritage guides visitors to the wisdom and achievements of Korean people in the past with collections arranged by the themes of the sea, people, culture, exchange and history. The area of academic study focused on the legacy is called Underwater Archaeology. The world's most famous underwater cultural remains include Viking ships excavated in Norway, the long survey ship named "Norseman" and another long ship named "Narsaq" from the Godthaab Fjord, the Red Bay Shipwreck from the USA, the Vasa Dismantled from the 1628 warship, and another long ship from the Flota of the Golden Age. In Korea, archaeologists discovered about 250 underwater archaeological sites in the Korean seas and performed extensive excavations at 20 sites to recover over 100,000 relics including 10 sunken ships. The precious relics have been actively exploited by experts seeking after the restoration of Korean maritime history and culture.

Children's Maritime Museum

Children’s Maritime Museum Activity Center is a surprisingly happy place full of exciting programs designed for kids to experience human history and culture. The events may include newly opened exhibitions on various specific themes. The events may include newly opened exhibitions on various specific themes.
The first exhibition room exhibits and tells a story about ancient ships and vessels from the Goryeo Dynasty. These submerged cultural treasures were found underwater and excavated from 1983 to 2010. They were buried under the sea for a long time, as there have been a number of shipwrecks in the sea route between the West Sea and South Sea of Korea. The themes of the different exhibits here are “Sailing lives during the Goryeo Dynasty”, “Tough Sea Route in the West Sea”, and “The Celadon Found from Wrecks.” You will see several interesting and astonishing cultural treasures discovered from the sea under each theme.

Exhibition Room 1 / Goryeo Shipwrecks /

The second exhibition room guides visitors to a Chinese merchant shipwreck (Sinan Ship) and the East Asian maritime trade. The Sinan Ship refers to a Chinese merchant ship sunken off the coast of Sinan on her way to Japan in 1323. When it was excavated, the shipwreck contained a variety of Chinese artifacts, Goryeo celadon works, Japanese Seto ware, Southeast Asian spices, medicinal herbs, red sandalwood, and kitchen utensils.

Exhibition Room 2 / Sinan Shipwreck /

The third exhibition room is focused on the folk life of local fishing communities with exhibits collected under the theme of “Searching for Jasan Eobo.” The book titled Jasan Eobo (or On the Fishes of Jasan Island) is an encyclopedic work of marine animals found along the Korea’s southwestern seas. Written in 1814 by a renowned scholar named Jeong Yak-jeon, the book contains valuable sources to deepen our knowledge of Korean culture and folk life during the late Joseon period. Visitors to this exhibition room will be guided to exciting folk culture of Korean fishing communities in the past introduced via a variety of fish species recorded in Jasan Eobo. Korea’s West Sea has been a “golden fishing ground” rich with a great variety of marine animals inhabiting in the sea shallow and deep and mud open tidalflats.

Exhibition Room 3 / Fishing Village Folk /

The fourth exhibition room provides visitors a general introduction of Korean vessels from the prehistoric times to the modern period. The collection on display includes drawings of boats and the whale hunting scene from Bangudae Petroglyphs, an ancient boat-shaped pottery and reproductions of various traditional Korean ships made during the Goryeo, Joseon and modern periods.