



Teacher Guide
Wonders of the Sea
90 minute Discovery Outreach
Grade : PreK-2nd

Museum of the Gulf Coast

Description

This Discovery Trunk introduces youngsters to the wonders of the sea with an engaging story time, sea life sorting, crafts, ocean bio-facts, and live animals.

Before Your Program/How to Set Up Your Room

- Teacher needs to be present at all times.
- Student's desks should be cleared. For the shell activity portion of the program they will need to be divided into 5 groups of 5 (for class of 25)
- Please provide at least one clear table at the head of the classroom

Pre-Visit Activity

Read the book " The whales' song " by Dyan Sheldon and have a tape with the sounds of the whales ready to be played. After you read the story have the children lay down on the rug and turn the lights low. Tell the children that you want them to listen for their names as they listen to the whales song. Say their name quietly as they rest. After this activity you can have materials ready for the children to practice their name or draw pictures of the whales.

Concepts/Goals

- There are many different types of animals living in coastal waters.
- Animals meet their basic needs in very different ways.
- Students will explore some animals that are native to a coastal region.
- Students will discuss similarities and differences between the animals.

Vocabulary

Vertebrae-Bones in the spinal column

Echinoderm-A group of in vertebrate animals that live exclusively in the ocean. They are known for their "spiny skin." These animals include sea stars, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, and sand dollars

Invertebrate-Animal without a backbone

Crustacean-Group of animals with an exoskeleton, jointed legs, and antenna. These include lobster, crabs, crayfish, and shrimp

Exoskeleton-The hard, outer-cover of the outside of an animal's body that supports and protects the animal.

Extension Activity

Ocean Animal Book

In this activity, students will work in groups to brainstorm facts about ocean animals. Each student will create one page of a larger book entitled "What We Learned About Ocean Animals."

PROCEDURE

1. Group students in pairs or groups of three.
2. Draw a K-W-L chart on the chalkboard. Direct each group to pick one ocean animal and discuss what they:
 - Know** about that ocean animal
 - **Want** to know about that ocean animal
 - **Learned** about that ocean animal during the Wonders of the Sea program
3. Have each student draw a picture of that animal.
4. Have each student choose one fact from their list and write a sentence using information to caption their drawing.
5. Collect all of the student pages and add a cover page made out of construction paper. Your completed class book can be titled "What We Know About Ocean Animals" or "All About Ocean Animals."