KELP

Kids Environmental Lesson Plans

KELP

KIDS ENVIRONMENTAL LESSON PLANS

KELP are free, downloadable marine science activities that encourage curiosity in kids and help them explore their surroundings. With simple materials and minimal preparation, these dynamic lesson plans address important ocean health issues including plastic pollution, overfishing and climate change.

After completing your chosen activities, celebrate your Ocean Explorers with our downloadable KELP certificate! And don’t forget to visit our store where you can find some fun KELP gear and even adopt Otto the Otter.

Thank you for registering!

Any questions?

Contact Shelley Brown for answers!

DOWNLOAD ALL LESSON PLANS

- All Age Groups -

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AGES 6 TO 12

LIVING UNDERWATER

A Shark’s Sixth Sense

Using magnets, kids can mimic how sharks use a unique sensory system to locate their prey.

Contributed By: Sailors for the Sea

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AGES 9 TO 12

BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

A Story of Sand

A hands on activity that illustrates the different sources of sand including biological, geological and man-made.

Contributed By: *Birch Aquarium*

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AGES 12 AND UP

CHEMISTRY OF THE SEA

Acidic Ocean

Students use thier own exhaled breath and a red cabbage pH indicator to visualize how our oceans are becoming more acidic.

Contributed By: *Sailors for the Sea*

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ALL AGES

LIVING UNDERWATER

All that Glitters

An activity that plays with light at different depths of the ocean and discusses adaptations organisms have made for different light conditions.

Contributed By: *University of Miami*

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BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

Beach Bingo

Kids will discover their natural surroundings by playing an interactive game of bingo with items that can be found at your beach or shoreline

Contributed By: *Sailors for the Sea*

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BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

Beach Bucket

Scavenger Hunt

A fun scavenger hunt that gives students understanding of what can be found on beaches, beach ecology and the role of manmade objects.

Contributed By: *Birch Aquarium*

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AGES 9 TO 12

POLLUTION & MARINE DEBRIS

Beach Contamination

Students are challenged to find and remove a baking soda contaminant from a container filled with damp sand.

***Contributed By:** Monterey Bay Aquarium*

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AGES 9 TO 12

BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

Beach in a Pan

Students construct a beach in a pan and investigate the effects of wind and waves on beach shape

Contributed By: Monterey Bay Aquarium

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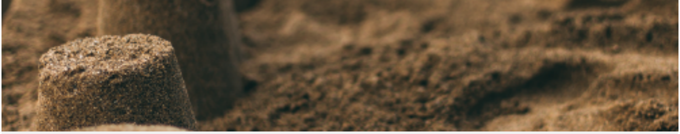
AGES 6 TO 12



BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

Beach Sculptures

Using materials and sand found on the beach, kids can create pieces of art

Contributed By: *Marine Biological Association*

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ALL AGES

AQUATIC ANIMALS

Become a Naturalist

Students will explore their outdoor surroundings to discover and learn about local flora and fauna.

Contributed By: *Sailors for the Sea*

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POLLUTION & MARINE DEBRIS

Biomagnification Game

A tag inspired game that demonstrates how plastics and the chemicals in plastics are biomagnified to reach our dinner plates.

Contributed By: *The Rozalia Project for a Clean Ocean*

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ALL AGES

AQUATIC ANIMALS

Build a Coral Polyp

Learn about the anatomy of coral and the symbiotic relationship between corals and zooxanthellae by building an edible coral polyp.

Contributed By: *California Academy of Sciences*

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AGES 6 TO 9

AQUATIC ANIMALS

Build Otto the Sea

Otter

Students will create a sea otter puppet and act out how this species is essential to kelp forest habitats.

Contributed By: *Sailors for the Sea*

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AGES 12 AND UP

CLIMATE CHANGE

Carbon Cycle Game

Students cycle as carbon between the living and nonliving parts of the ecosystem.

Contributed By: *Rutgers University*

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AGES 12 AND UP

AQUATIC ANIMALS

Clam Jigsaw

Students create a cutout model of a clam to investigate the anatomy and physiology of these animals.

Contributed By: *Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies*

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AGES 9 AND UP

BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

Cloudy Waters

Students create a simple scientific instrument and learn about the role of sediment in their local waters.

Contributed By: *Sailors for the Sea*

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AGES 6 TO 12

BEACHES, BAYS & RIVERS

Coastal Matching

Learn about what is found in your coastal environment with this fun matching game.

Contributed By: *Sailors for the Sea*