

Under the Sea

Objective: To discuss the ocean of the world and to teach students about ocean life.

Materials:

Two glass jars
Rocks
Shells
Sand
Water
Blue food coloring
Mineral oil
Sequins (optional)
White card stock
Glue
Scissors
Black marker
White tissue paper
Cream cheese
Small bagels
Goldfish crackers
Pineapple juice
Club Soda

10 to 15 minutes; Discuss the ocean (See map below)

Discuss the oceans of the world, including where they are and which continents border them. Use the map to point this out. Also, ask students to name as many ocean animals that they can. Are they a fish, a mammal, a crustacean, etc?

- Just a few ocean animals: Lobsters, various fish, stingray, conchs, jellyfish, manatees, sea horse, seals, sea turtles, walrus, whales, dolphins, octopus, eels

5 to 10 minutes; Make Sand

Fill a clear plastic bottle or jar with layers of rocks, shells, sand, and water. Encourage the children to shake the jar as you discuss how sand is formed over a long period of time from the grinding of rocks against other rocks and shells.

10 to 15 minutes; Watch the Waves

Fill a small plastic jar with a little more than half full of water. Add two or three drops of blue food coloring to the water and mix well. Fill the rest of the jar with mineral

oil (fill to the top or air bubbles can form). Put the lid on tightly, hot gluing it to stay in place. Hold the bottle sideways and gently tip it to create "waves". Before adding the oil and water you can drop some sand and shells into the bottle, and some sequins for the sparkling effect.

10 to 15 minutes; Octopus Art

Using white card stock, ask students to cut a large half circle. A black marker can be used to draw eyes. Students can then cut thin pieces of tissue paper about 1 foot long. Glue to the back of the card stock and hang from the ceiling for a festive decoration.

While students are cutting, discuss interesting facts about an octopus.

- Octopuses can change colors anytime they want! They change colors to hide from their enemies and they can change colors when they're angry or happy.
- Octopuses don't like to fight. They use an ink-like liquid to trick an enemy. The inky blob looks like the octopus, and the enemy attacks it. Then the octopus quickly swims away.
- An octopus doesn't like to live in a messy home. It uses its siphon to squirt all the shells and debris out of its home after it is finished eating.

15 to 20 minutes; Edible Aquarium and Octopus Bubbles

Soften cream cheese and add a few drops of blue food coloring. Spread on toast or a small bagel. Place goldfish crackers on top and enjoy!

Pour half a glass of pineapple juice. Add club soda to fill the glass. Stir and enjoy!

