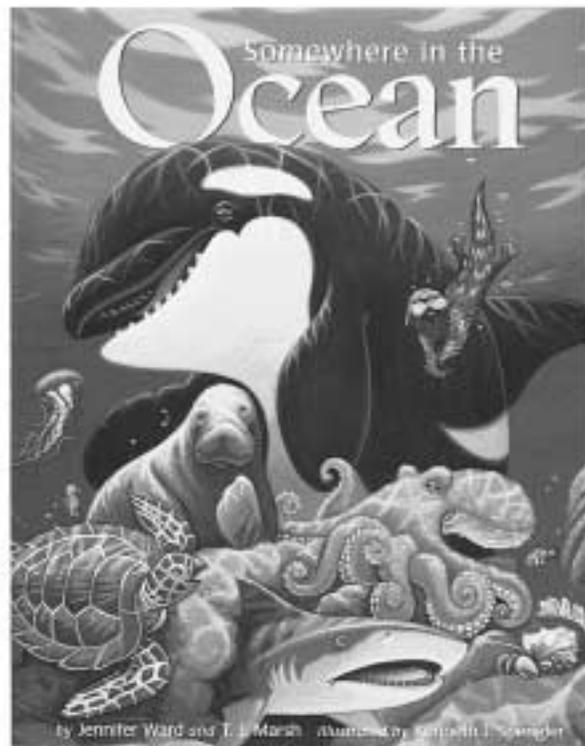


TOOLS FOR TEACHERS

TEACHING CURRICULUM FOR HOME AND THE CLASSROOM



Set to the traditional tune of “Over in the Meadow,” Somewhere in the Ocean will teach youngsters much more than how to count from one to ten as they follow ocean-dwelling mothers and their offspring throughout their days.

Complete with glossary, musical score, and numbers hidden in the illustrations, this lively counting book will introduce readers to an array of marine life—from manatees and sea otters to jellyfish and sea horses—in their natural habitat.

Photocopy for Classroom Use
See back page for
further information.



rising moon

Quality children's books are enjoyable just for their stories and pictures. However, activities such as those presented here can help teachers develop the themes of a book in a more complete way. We encourage you to adapt these activities to your classroom.

Language Arts

SKILLS: *Identifying verbs, alphabet identification, poetry writing.*

BOOK CONNECTION: The ocean is full of many wonderful plants and animals. Just as you are able to move and do amazing things in your own special way, ocean animals are able to move and do amazing things in their own special way, too!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

A copy of *Somewhere in the Ocean* for reference, butcher paper, marker.

ACTIVITY#1: Locate the verbs, or action words, on each page (nibble, jump, splash, nestle, dress, munch). As action words are found, chart them on butcher paper. Compare the actions of the ocean animals to actions that you do. Are any of the ocean animal actions things that you do, too? Discuss your similarities and differences.

ACTIVITY#2: Locate words in the story that begin with letter Aa, Bb, Cc—all the way to Zz. (All letters are represented with the exception of Qq, Vv, Xx, and Yy). Try to locate words that have the letters Qq, Vv, Xx and Yy in them!

ACTIVITY#3: Create an ocean acrostic poem. Select an ocean animal from the story. Write its name vertically along a piece of paper. Then, write a word or sentence describing the ocean animal using the letters in the animal's name as the start of each word or sentence. When finished, draw a picture of the ocean animal to go along with the poem. Finally, share your poem and illustration with a friend!



Math

SKILLS: *Counting, problem solving, graphing and number identification.*

BOOK CONNECTION: Somewhere in the Ocean is a counting book about the many different plants and animals that live in the ocean. After reading the story, work on the following activities:

MATERIALS NEEDED:

A copy of *Somewhere in the Ocean* for reference, paper, pencil, markers or crayons.



ACTIVITY#1: Locate the hidden number on each page and match it with the number word.

ACTIVITY#2: Problem-solve the following brain-teasers using pictures, tally marks, repeated addition, or multiplication:

Each hermit crab has two claws. There is one mother, plus four babies, for a total of five hermit crabs. How many hermit crab claws are there altogether?

Each sea turtle has four flippers. There is one mother, plus eight babies, for a total of nine sea turtles. How many flippers are there altogether?

Each octopus has eight arms. There is one mother, plus ten babies, for a total of eleven octopuses. How many octopus arms are there altogether?

ACTIVITY#3: How many different combinations can you come up with to create the sum of ten using numbers in the book? (For example, nine jelly fish, plus one manatee, equals ten; or two orca whales, plus eight sea turtles, equals ten). You may draw pictures of your animals and then write a number sentence to go with them. Compare your different combinations to a friend's!



Science

SKILLS: *Making predictions, exploring the concept of sink and float.*

BOOK CONNECTION: Some things are meant to be in or near water all the time, like the animals in *Somewhere in the Ocean*. Ocean animals have special adaptations, or characteristics, that allow them to live in or near the water their entire lives. For example, sea otters have webbed feet, which help them to swim easier, and fish have air-filled bladders, which help them to stay afloat! Experiment with water and different objects to see whether or not they sink or float.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

A small, plastic tub, 4–5 cups of water, and an assortment of objects to place in the water. Experiment with a paper clip, penny, rock, feather, cork, shell, popsicle stick, pencil, small air-filled balloon and a small sand-filled balloon.

ACTIVITY: Place water in a small tub (a plastic, shoe-size storage bin works well). Then make a prediction, or a guess, as to whether or not each item will sink or float. Finally, place your selected items in the water one at a time. Were your predictions correct?

Further Activities

1. *Sorting and Classifying.*

BOOK CONNECTION: Hermit crabs live in shells in order to protect their soft bodies. Their shells may be striped, white, spiral or speckled, depending on what they can find and what fits. Shells come in many sizes, shapes and colors.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

One piece of paper and an assortment of shells.

ACTIVITY: Take a piece of paper and fold it into four parts (fold it in half and then in half again so that when you open it, there are four sections). Look through your assortment of shells. Decide on four ways that you might sort your shells so that each group will have one thing in common. Place each group of shells with one thing in common in a section of the paper. For example, one group might have ridges, while another group might be smooth. One group might have stripes, while another group might be spiral shaped. Explain to a friend or adult how you have sorted each group of shells.



2. Comparing salt water to fresh water.

BOOK CONNECTION: How is ocean water different from other bodies of water? Well, for one, it is *salty*! How is salt water different from fresh water? Things are more buoyant, or they float easier, in salt water. Try this experiment to prove it.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

One cup just large enough to hold an egg, cup of salt, cup of water, and a spoon.

ACTIVITY: Take a small glass or cup and fill it with a cup of fresh water. Next, place an egg in the cup and observe how the egg sinks to the bottom of the cup. Finally, pour in a cup of salt and gently stir it around with the spoon. Observe the egg now, as if floats to the top of your cup! Why does this happen? Salt water has more density than fresh water. The density of an egg is greater than the density of fresh water, so it sinks. But an egg has less density than salt water, so this forces the egg to float!



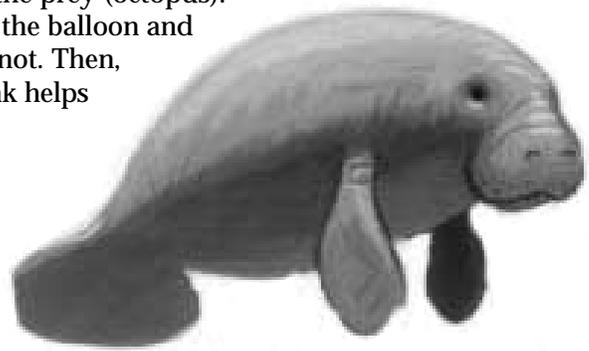
3. Simulating and observing how an octopus uses ink to hide from predators.

BOOK CONNECTION: One way the octopus can escape from predators is by squirting a dark fluid. This dark cloud hides it from the predator, allowing the octopus to escape.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

A small tub or large bowl of water, water balloon, food coloring and a small, plastic toy shark, if you have one.

ACTIVITY: Recreate one way an octopus hides from predators! Fill a water balloon with water. Before tying it closed, place about seven drops of dark colored food coloring in the water balloon. Then, tie it closed. Fill a small tub or large bowl with water. Place the toy shark in the water. This is the predator. Place the water balloon in the tub. This is the prey (octopus). Observe that the prey is visible to the predator. Remove the balloon and very carefully place a tiny hole in the balloon near the knot. Then, place the balloon back in the water. Now, watch as the ink helps hide the prey from the predator!



Geography



SKILL: *Comparing land surface to water surface on earth.*

BOOK CONNECTION: Look at a globe and you will see that water covers most of our planet earth. Water is a precious resource. Think of the many ways you use water in your life. Every living thing depends on water for life!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

A balloon, flour, water, bowl, spoon, newspaper, colored tempera paint (blue, green, white), and yarn.

ACTIVITY: Create your own planet earth complete with land and oceans. First, prepare a paper mache mixture by combining flour and water in a bowl. Mix until creamy. Tear a newspaper into thin strips approximately one to two inches wide each. Then, blow up a balloon. Place a newspaper strip into the flour mixture until it is covered, then place the newspaper strip over and around the balloon. Continue this process until the entire balloon is covered with newspaper. Allow the paper mache balloon to dry overnight. Once your balloon has dried, use your paints to create the oceans and continents of the earth. You may want to use white paint to create the polar regions. Finally, take a piece of yarn and glue it around the center of your earth to represent the equator. Have fun showing your family and friends your very own earth. And be sure to point out to them that oceans cover most of our planet!



Additional Activity

1. Comparing land surface to water surface on earth.

BOOK CONNECTION: Oceans cover approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the earth's surface. How much is that? Well, if the earth were divided up into four equal parts, oceans would cover three of those parts. Here's a simple way to represent how much more water there is on the surface of earth than land.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

A piece of paper cut into a circle and a blue and brown crayon.

ACTIVITY: Take your circle and fold it in half, then fold it in half again, so that there are four equal parts. Color three of the sections on your circle blue. This represents the water. Color the remaining section brown. This represents the land. Using your cut out circle, you can now easily compare the amount of water to land as it appears on the earth's surface!



rising moon

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