

WEEK 4

Elementary School Daily Lessons



Resources Overview

Our mission is to provide simple yet engaging daily lessons that will help young learners stay engaged within core disciplines—ELA, Social Studies and Science—as well as an extracurricular activity. Every week we will select a new theme per subject.

Please note that resources, which may include Newsela articles, videos from various content providers, or external activities will be hyperlinked in the activities.

Finally, [here](#) is a weekly checklist students can use to track their daily progress.

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This Week's Focus

Social Studies

Exploring Earth's Oceans

ELA

Reading and Writing about the Ocean

Science

Marine Fossils

Explore

Ocean Fun

DAY 1

ELA [15-20 minutes]

Write a personal narrative about a time that you have been to the ocean. If you have never been to the ocean, write about how you imagine it would be to visit. Use the following questions to help you get started?

- Which beach/ocean?
- What does it feel like? What does it look like?
- What type of activities would you like to do?

After, share with a sibling, parent or caregiver what you wrote about!

Challenge Alert! Draw an illustration to make your personal narrative.

Social Studies [15-20 minutes]

Ocean Explorers study everything under-the-sea!

Read about them [here](#).

When you are done reading, answer the following questions:

- What is an Ocean Explorer?
- Do you want to become an Ocean Explorer? Why or why not?

Science [10-15 minutes]

Watch the Discovery News video [Why a Massive Whale Graveyard's in The Desert](#).

Now, imagine you are a reporter covering a story about what life was like for prehistoric plants and animals living in Earth's early oceans. Write 5 questions you would ask to better understand what life was like back then.

Explore: [20 minutes] Google Earth Exploration!

Caregiver supervision advised

Visit <https://www.google.com/earth/> to explore the following oceans:

- Atlantic Ocean
- Pacific Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- Arctic Ocean

Identify the continents that are near each.

DAY 2

ELA [20-25 minutes]

Yesterday, you read about Ocean Explorers, pick one article about what people have seen in the ocean!

- [Mystery solved on how Garfield phones have littered French beach](#)
- [With grace and scuba gear, dancers perform new underwater ballet](#)
- [Titanic discoverer took marine archaeology to new depths](#)
- [French adventurer completes trip across Atlantic Ocean in a huge barrel](#)

After you have finished reading, create a story using the [storyboard](#) based on one of the discoveries or people you read about.

Social Studies [15-20 minutes]

Oceans cover about 71% of the Earth's surface. Read about some of the world's oceans [here!](#)

When you are done reading, label the following oceans on this [map](#):

- Atlantic Ocean
- Pacific Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- Arctic Ocean

Science [30 minutes]

Read the article [Scientists discover India's oldest fossil of a Jurassic sea monster](#).

Next, draw a picture of an animal that you think might have lived in the ocean millions of years ago. You can even add labels to point out unique features of your animal.

Explore: [30 minutes] Create the Ocean!

Using crayons, markers, colored pencils, or paint, create an ocean scene. You can decide whether to create an image like you're under the sea or from the point of view of being at the beach!

DAY 3

ELA [20-25 minutes]

Choose between one of the following short stories: [Hermia's Shell](#) or [The Little Mermaid](#). As you read, highlight or write down the words that help you visualize the setting of the story.

When you are done reading, answer the following questions:

- What is the setting of this story?
- Why is the setting important for the story you read about?

Challenge Alert! Rewrite the story using a different setting. Think about how this changes how the story goes.

Social Studies [15-20 minutes]

Ecosystems and marine life coexist in the oceans. Sometimes things that don't belong in the water, like trash and plastic, end up there disturbing both!

Read about one way that some kids are helping to clean the water and ecosystems of the oceans [here!](#)

When you are done reading, write down one way that you might be able to help the oceans yourself!

Science [15-20 minutes]

Explore the London Natural History Museum's [Palaeontology Collections](#).

Make a list of all of the marine (ocean) animals you find.

Explore: [20 minutes] Snack Time!

Caregiver supervision advised

Hungry? Looking to create a cool snack? Follow this recipe!

- 1 plastic cup (to hold the ocean)
- 1 box of blue gelatin (for the water)
- 2 gummy fish or gummy sharks (as the sea animals!)
- 4 vanilla wafers (for sand)
- 1 can of whipped topping to use as sea foam!

DAY 4

ELA [20-25 minutes]

Myths are created to explain why certain things are the way that they are, like the ocean being salty. Read the article, "[Big Questions: What makes oceans so salty?](#)"

Then create your own myth for why the ocean is so salty. Remember that myths are fictional! If you need some inspiration, read the myth "[Why the Evergreens Keep their Leaves](#)"

Social Studies [15-20 minutes]

There are 50 states in the United States of America. Rhode Island, also called "The Ocean State", is one of the fifty! Read about Rhode Island [here](#).

When you are done reading, share one or two reasons why Rhode Island is called "The Ocean State" with a caregiver, family member, or friend!

Science [25-30 minutes]

Read the article [Ancient sea creature was actually very similar to modern dolphin](#), then respond to the following question:

- What do fossils teach us about Earth's ancient oceans?

Explore: (20-30 Minutes) "Baby Shark" Dance!

The "Baby Shark" song became a worldwide phenomenon in recent years. With its catchy tune and fun lyrics, it is certainly a song that is easy to dance to. By yourself or with others, create your own dance to the song! When you are done, feel free to share your dance with caregivers, family, or friends!

DAY 5

ELA [20-25 minutes]

Many poets use the ocean or beach as inspiration for their poems! Read about how to create a [haiku](#) or a [shape poem](#).

Then create your own. Think about the different elements the ocean or beach has to offer (waves, sun, sandy, ocean breeze, salty water, fish, swimming, etc.) When you are done, share with a sibling, parent or caregiver!

Social Studies [15-20 minutes]

Ocean ecosystems are communities of organisms that exist underwater. Children and adults work together all the time to try and help ecosystems remain thriving and clean. Read about ocean ecosystems [here!](#)

When you are done reading, look at the steps in the article to make your own ecosystem. With permission, follow the steps from the article or use materials that you have to create your own ocean ecosystem!

Science [20-30 minutes]

Ancient Marine Life Comic Strip: Using the [Storyboard](#) organizer or your own paper, create a comic strip illustrating what life in the ancient ocean would have been like for one of the animals you read about in your articles. Tell the story using colored drawings and words.

Explore: [10-15 minutes] Ocean Exercises!

Inside or outside, design some “ocean-inspired” exercises to get your body moving! Use your imagination and have fun! Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Crab Walk
- Jellyfish Wiggle
- Seahorse Jive