

Ocean Week

Many students do not have the opportunity to go to the ocean.
This project attempts to bring the ocean to the students.

Curriculum/State Standard

The students will understand that scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. The students will learn that animals have structures for respiration, digestion, waste disposal, and transport of materials.

Overview

Ocean week is a time for the entire school to come together focusing all classroom and school activities on the ocean. In the classroom, ocean activities are integrated into the curriculum. Ocean Week is also a wonderful hands-on project that allows students and teachers to participate in school-wide activities, such as plankton lab, live crayfish lab, squid dissection, fish dissection, clam dissection, and shark dissection.

Objectives

- Students will learn the anatomy and physiology of the animals being studied.
- Students will learn the proper process and techniques used in dissection.
- Students will learn to appreciate and respect the animals that are being studied.
- Students will learn to work cooperatively in small groups.

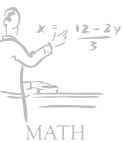
Materials

Dissecting equipment (scissors, toothpicks, magnifying glasses, paper plates), lots of newspaper, squid (1 per 2 students, 20-30 per 3 pounds), fish (not cleaned), clams, sharks, live crayfish, 1-2 large ice chests, tee shirt paints (puff paints, tee shirt paint, rubber fish), squid cooking stuff (tempura, oil, woks)

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K-6

GRADE LEVEL



Misc
MISCELLANEOUS



1-2

WEEKS

\$900

TOTAL BUDGET

“Ocean Week” project continued...

Readiness Activity

Every school-wide activity must be pre-taught in the classroom. The background information, terminology of the anatomy, the habitat of the dissected organisms, and safety protocol for dissection are all important to the students' prior knowledge. This will enhance the effectiveness of the dissection.

The grade level teams use a departmentalized teaching strategy. Each teacher learns one lesson and then teaches that one lesson several times to each of the other classes at his/her grade level.

Strategies/Activities

This is a large project that must have a coordinator. For Ocean Week, the coordinator focuses only on Ocean Week activities and is not able to teach his science or computer classes. As a Title 1 school John Reith provides two Title 1 teachers who help teach some of the dissections. The basic jobs of the coordinator are: scheduling, teaching dissections, buying and distributing the materials, and supporting teachers with the implementation of the programs and lessons.

When planning the dissections there are many options. For conducting single class dissections, we use classrooms or we have students rotate through an open room. If we have multiple class dissections (all second grade), we use the multi-purpose room.

Depending on what part of the country you are from, buying the materials may be difficult. I buy the squid, fish, and clams from seafood wholesalers. If I need to get squid, fish or clams on short notice, I go to Asian fish markets. I buy the sharks, plankton (protists), and live crayfish from a biological supply company.

Mr. Mawson will send materials if requested.

Culminating Activities

To culminate activities we have an Ocean Week celebration assembly. The entire school assembles in the quad area of our school and each grade level does some type of presentation. It may be a song from the Banana Slugs Band, or a skit, or a teacher presentation.

Evaluation

Students are evaluated by their teachers through drawings, tests, and quizzes. During the dissections, the students are verbally monitored for their levels of competency.