



SHELL DAY

-TK-

WELCOME

(5 min)

STORY TIME

(10 min)

MATH TIME

(20-30 min)

Materials:

- Shells
- Pencil

STEM TIME

(60 min)

Materials:

- Cardboard boxes
- Paper
- Crayons
- Tape (optional)
- Streamers or fabric for ocean waves

NEW WORD: MOLLUSK

A mollusk is a soft body animal with no bones that usually uses a shell as its home and protection. Say: "Every shell you find at one time had something living inside of it!"

Read the story for the day!

COUNTING SHELLS

Instructions: Sorting and grouping is an important skill in science. It is important to allow students to decide how to sort their shells.

1. Have the kids sort shells into piles.
2. Let them decide how they are going to sort them.
3. Have students count each group of shells and record their numbers.
4. Allow the students to make designs with their shells.

SHELL SWITCH

Instructions: After watching the lab movie this activity would be best to do outside so there is plenty of room for the kids to move around.

1. Watch the video with your students.

Say: "Did you know that hermit crabs have very soft bodies and they need a shell to protect them? Hermit crabs cannot make their own shells. They use the shells that mollusks make. When a hermit crab grows, it has to find a new shell. They are constantly changing out their shells! Today we are going to pretend we are hermit crabs under the ocean! We get to make our own shells out of cardboard, fabric, or paper!"

2. Have students pretend to be shells on the ocean floor, they can curl up on the ground or crouch down.
3. Leader walks around with a blue scarf or fabric or streamers and pretends to be a wave.

4. When they glide the scarf over the shells, they roll onto the shore.
5. Have butcher paper, cardboard boxes, fabric, or totes that students can turn into their make believe shells.
6. Have students get on the ground with their “shells” and try and move around.
7. After a little while, call out “Shell switch!” and have students grab another students shell to try on.
8. Allow the students to have some free play time at the end to have fun in their shells.

NATURE WALK

At the end of the unit, go over what was taught. Say: “The animals that live in shells are mollusks. The shells are their homes and protection. Let’s go outside and see if we can find some mollusks! ie. snails. Remember if we find some let’s not step on them but have fun observing them.”

Additional ideas for STEM time:

1. Have a seashell hunt
2. Listen to a shell
3. Paint pasta shells, make the mollusks out of play dough or air-dry clay
4. Paint real shells and add fun wiggle eyes