



MARINE LIFE

Grades 4-8th



KEEP OUR OCEANS CLEAN

Students will discuss trash and marine life

ALOHA!

10 min

STORY & SNACK

20 min

SPORTS / GAMES

30 min

Materials:

- Tweezers, spoons, and
- Test tube caps
- Ripped up paper
- Cheerios/ Animal crackers random shaped items to grab

STEM TIME

50 min

Materials:

- Balloon
- Bits of plastic that you have collected such as bottle caps or candy wrappers

Aloha is Hawaiian for hello!

Greet your students. Be friendly. Use their name, ask a question, give a high five, or thumbs-up! Take roll. Mark down which students took a snack and tally how many snacks were given out.

Read the story:

Today's story is called A Fish and a Gift. Read the story to your students outside as they sit in a circle.

Bird Beak Relay

Instructions- This is a fun game where you can spread out some different types of food "cheerios, ripped up paper, etc. on the ground in a big area, and each team will have a container to transfer their food to. They each will have various beaks such as tweezers, spoons, and test tube caps. *These are in your KEA, the crate on the shelf. Set a time limit and let the food collecting fun begin. Refer to the game sheet on the website for more details.

Birds, Plastics, and Marine Tangle

Students will do two activities today! They will learn about how plastic is dangerous for birds and marine life, and they will play a game of Marine Tangle, a variation of Cat's Cradle.

Explain: Birds and Plastics

Students will see exactly how plastic can get stuck in the internal organs of an animal. When plastics are left out in the sunlight, they become brittle and break into tiny pieces. Fish and birds think those small pieces of plastic are food and they eat them. Pieces of plastic easily get stuck inside these animals causing them harm. We are going to explore how small bits of plastic can get stuck inside an animal using a party balloon and some bits of plastic.

Instructions:

Balloon Demonstration

Demonstrate how plastic can get stuck in the internal organs of an animal by showing how bits of plastic can get stuck inside a balloon. A balloon is similar to internal organs in our digestive system because they are both thin, flexible, and are shapes that have small openings, like the neck of the balloon. It is very easy to put objects in a balloon, but the objects don't come back out on their own. Once inside the balloon, they are stuck.



STEM TIME

50 min

Materials:

- A piece of string

NATURE JOURNALING

15 min

CLEAN UP / FREE PLAY

25 min

Instructions: Continued

1. Take a balloon and hold it up for students to see

Ask - How does the balloon look? How does it feel? Example: The balloon is thin and flexible, floppy, and has an opening.

2. Blow up your balloon but don't tie it shut

Let the balloon go and watch it fly in the air. Allow students to see who can get their balloon to go the highest and the farthest. Let them experiment for a while and then ask them what they noticed about what the balloon did,

3. Gently put bits of plastic/paper/objects inside your balloon

Ask - How does the balloon look? How does it feel? Example: The balloon is lumpy. I can feel bits of plastic inside it.

4. Blow the balloon up and then let the air out. Let the balloon go and watch how it blows across the room now that it is full of trash. Pinch the mouth of the balloon and make it whistle. Help your students make the observation that although air can go out of the balloon, the plastic stays inside.

Explain: Just like this balloon marine animals that ingest plastic are forever changed.

Explain: Marine Tangle

Today, you will see how getting tangled up can be a dangerous situation for an animal. It is easy to become entangled but hard to become free again. You can demonstrate how animals can become entangled in trash such as string, rope, netting and plastic bags. Note to Teacher: Do this activity in small groups with adult supervision. You may wish to do this activity by inviting students to come up to the front of the class to help with the demonstration one at a time.

Instructions:

You can demonstrate how animals can become entangled in trash such as string, netting & plastic. We are going to do an activity in which you will pretend your hand is an animal. Explore what it is like to try to get out of a tangle using only one hand.

1. Decide what type of hand-animal you want to have. Draw eyes, feathers, or wings on your hand. You can make your hand into any kind of animal! You could be a seagull, a fish, a shark, a whale or even a sea turtle. Your arm could be a beak, or your fingers could be flippers. Be creative!

2. Tangle your hand up with the loop of yarn Tie a piece of yarn around your hand-animal. Tangle up your hand-animal as good as possible.

3. See if your hand-animal can untangle itself You have one minute to get the yarn off your hand. Remember, you can't use ANY help from your other hand! Can your hand animal free itself?

Explain Animals don't have hands and thumbs to help them get free if they become tangled. A simple loop around a bird's foot or neck could trap a wild animal.

Instructions:

Say - "Today we learned a lot about how our trash affects animals. Write a journal entry about what you have learned during the activities. Choose and write about something you can do to help the health of the environment."

Clean up/Free play/Dismissal

Allow your students some free time. Some students may wish to finish working on their STEM project. Others may want to journal or scrapbook about their day.