

Sea Keepers – Learning Resources

Activity 1: Creature Fact Files

The Sea Keepers use their knowledge of animals to help them, if they find sea creatures who are in trouble. The more we know about nature and animals, the more we can look after them and make sure their habitats are safe for the future.

Getting started:

<u>Research -</u>

Have a go at researching a bit about a chosen ocean animal. A good place to start is a <u>non-fiction book</u>. Try to use the CONTENTS page or INDEX to help you. Try looking up the name of the animal first. If that isn't there, you could think about other facts you know:

- Do you know what group of animals it belongs to?
- Do you know where in the world they live?
- Do you know which habitat they live in?

Use the answers to these questions a KEY WORDS to search for in the CONTENTS or INDEX.

You could also try to find out some facts with an online search. Try a general search first using the name of the animal. Look out for expert websites, such a national animal protection groups, as these should have reliable information.

Gathering Facts:

As you read about your chosen ocean creature and find out all about it, you need to collect the information in an organised way. Try to make sure that information on the same topic is grouped together. Use the sheet to help you.

You can use notes here, so just jot key words and phrases. You can build them into sentences a bit later.



Fishing For Facts

My chosen ocean creature is:

Places I have found my information:

<u>Size:</u> Can you find out how long they are? How much do they weigh? Are males and females the same size?	<u>Appearance:</u> What do they look like? Think about colour and distinguishing features.
<u>Young:</u> Do their babies have a special name? Do they hatch from eggs or not?	<u>Lifespan:</u> How long do they live? What are the stages of their life?
Habitat: Where do they live? How are they adapted to their environment?	<u>Diet:</u> What do they eat? Where are they in the food chain? Are they herbivores, carnivores or omnivores?





<u>Get Writing:</u>

Now you have all the ideas, you can create a brilliant fact file on your chosen creature. You've already grouped similar ideas together in each notes box, so you know which ideas to put in a paragraph together.

Try to think of a good subtitle for each paragraph. A question makes a good subtitle.

for example – Why do live near? What do eat?

Think about linking two facts together into one sentence with a conjunction:

WHEN IF BECAUSE AND BUT SO WHILE ALTHOUGH

for example –

They live in BECAUSE it provides them with......





Ocean Creature Fact File:





Activity 2: NOT single-use Plastic

The Sea Keepers know that lots and lots of single-use plastic is ending up in the ocean. This is very damaging to the creatures who live there. They can get tangled up in nets, or think plastic bags are food and eat them by accident.



Why not think like a Sea Keeper and reuse some plastic in your home, so it doesn't end up in the ocean?

<u>Getting started:</u>

Start collecting plastic packaging, instead of putting it in the bin. Make sure you wash them properly, so there's no food or liquid left in them.



<u>Developing Ideas:</u>

Now, start looking at the shapes of the bottles, tubs, pots and containers. Get those creative juices flowing and think of what you could turn a plastic container into. Here are some ideas to get your brain thinking:

- milk container bird feeder
- yoghurt pot plant pot
- margarine tub money box
- water bottle pen pot

When you have your idea, sketch it onto the planning sheet. Label all the parts, shapes and how it works.



Plastic Planning

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<u>Get Making:</u>

Before you start making, look closely at your plan and make a list of everything you need. It's good to get organised. Gather all the resources you need, including things like scissors and glue.

<u>BE CAREFUL!!! – If you are going to cut your plastic, ask a grown up to</u> <u>check you will be safe doing it. You may need them to help you. If you cut</u> <u>plastic, it may leave a sharp edge. Think about covering it with strong tape</u> <u>to make it safe.</u>





<u>Fix the Problem! – Redesigning</u>

Now, let's think about tackling the problem of too much plastic being used. Choose something you buy quite often that comes in plastic packaging. What alternatives could it be packaged in instead?

Here are some alternatives that are used by some manufacturers already:

- <u>starch-based materials</u> these plant-based materials often replace plastic. The good thing about them is that they are biodegradable. That means they are broken down by nature. They can go on a compost heap, unlike plastic, which won't decompose for hundreds and hundreds of years!
- <u>glass</u> glass is a material we can recycle, so it's good for bottles and jars.
- <u>beeswax sheets</u> these can wrap food up to keep it fresh and be re-used over and over.
- <u>cardboard</u> many items that are wrapped in plastic don't need to be. They could go in a cardboard container, which can be recycled.

Use the before and after design sheet to show your redesign.

<u>Designer tips:</u>

- Make sure you label all the features and materials.
- You will need to include any information that is on the existing packaging, like the barcode, price, nutritional information.
- Make sure your packaging is appealing to the customer.
- Show your customer the packaging is environmentally friendly in some way.



Plastic Re-Design

Before:	
After:	



Make a change:

Now you have your design, why not send it to the manufacturer and suggest the changes? Accompany the design with a persuasive letter. You can find an address on the manufacturer's website.

To persuade them you need to include lots of reasons why they should make the change. Also, make sure your design is very clear for them to understand.

This is a business letter so needs to be written in standard English and have a formal tone.







Activity 3: Be a real-life Sea Keeper

Being a Sea Keeper is all about protecting and preserving life in the ocean. You can be a real-life Sea Keeper too.

How to be a real-life

Would you like to be a Sea Keeper just like Emily, Grace and Layla? Here are a few ideas for how you can help protect our oceans.

1. Try to use less water

Using too much water is wasteful. Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth and take shorter showers.

2. Use fewer plastic products

Plastic ends up in the ocean and can cause problems for marine wildlife. Instead of using plastic bottles, refill a metal bottle. Carry a tote bag when out shopping, and use non-disposable food containers and cutlery.

Sea Keeper

3. Help at a beach clean-up

Keeping the shore clear of litter means less litter is swept into the sea. Next time you're at the beach or a lake, try and pick up all the litter you can see.

4. Reduce your energy consumption

Turn off lights when you aren't using a room. Walk or cycle instead of driving. Take the stairs instead of the lift. Using less energy helps reduce the effects of climate change.

5. Avoid products that harm marine life

Do not buy items made from endangered species. If you eat seafood, make sure it comes from sustainable sources.



When Emily, Grace and Layla officially become Sea Keepers, they take the Sea Keeper Vow:

"I promise to protect all who live in the sea, From sharks, skates and squid, to anemones. The Golden Pearls I promise to find, To use their power for mermaid kind. I'll honour the oceans, from shore to shore, And be a Sea Keeper for ever more."

Why don't you have a go at creating your own Sea Keeper vow? Add your own ideas in here. Can you make it rhyme? Try to learn it off by heart. Can you recite it to your family without looking?

I promise to protect all
who live in the sea,
From
And , to
I promise to
То
I'll honour the oceans, from shore to shore,
And be a Sea Keeper for ever more.



Resources based on the Sea Keepers series by Coral Ripley



<u>Member of the Team:</u>

When you join a club, society or organisation, you often get a badge to show your membership. Have a go at designing a club badge for the Sea Keepers.

Things to think about:

- the shape could it be a shape connected to the ocean?
- the colours try to pick only a few colours. Choose colours linked to the ocean.
- the name how can you make the name stand out clearly?
- symbols can you include symbols to show the purpose of the club?









Activity 4: Sea Keeper Tails

With some mermaid magic Emily, Grace and Layla are able to swim and breathe underwater like mermaids. They have their own unique mermaid tail.



Let's see if you can design you own merman or mermaid tail. Think about the colours of the scales and fins and get totally creative with your design.





