

Subject Area: Ocean Science
Unit Title: Introduction to Ocean Science
Experiments: Coastal River Delta
Grade Level: 9
Lesson Number: 1 of 10

Duration: 2-3 class periods per week for 10 weeks
Date: September 1 - November 30
Teacher: Ms. Johnson
Room: 205

Curriculum Standards Alignment

Content Standards:

- Ocean Principle 1: The Earth's ocean is the single, interconnected, global system that covers most of our planet.
- Ocean Principle 2: The ocean and life in the ocean shape the features of the Earth.
- Ocean Principle 3: The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate.
- Ocean Principle 4: The ocean makes Earth habitable.
- Ocean Principle 5: The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems.
- Ocean Principle 6: The ocean and humans are inextricably linked.
- Ocean Principle 7: The ocean's resources are limited, and its health is threatened by human activities.

Skills Standards:

- Design and conduct hands-on experiments to investigate ocean science concepts
- Analyze data and draw conclusions about the impact of human activities on the ocean
- Communicate findings effectively through various media

Cross-Curricular Links:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Environmental Education
- Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving

Essential Questions & Big Ideas

Essential Questions:

- What is the importance of ocean literacy in our daily lives?
- How do human activities impact the ocean and its ecosystems?
- What can we do to conserve and protect the ocean's resources?

Enduring Understandings:

- The ocean plays a vital role in our planet's ecosystem.
- Human activities have a significant impact on the ocean and its ecosystems.
- It is essential to conserve and protect the ocean's resources for future generations.

Student Context Analysis

Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5

Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%

- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

- Kinesthetic: 30%

Pre-Lesson Preparation

Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in groups of 4-5 students
- Set up lab equipment and materials for hands-on activities
- Prepare technology and software for data collection and analysis

Technology Needs:

- Computers or laptops with internet access
- Software for data analysis and presentation
- Digital tools for collaboration and communication

Materials Preparation:

- Lab equipment and materials for hands-on activities
- Printed copies of worksheets and handouts
- Whiteboard and markers

Safety Considerations:

- Follow proper lab safety protocols
- Use protective gear and equipment as needed
- Ensure students understand and follow safety procedures

Detailed Lesson Flow

Pre-Class Setup (15 mins before)

- Set up room and equipment
- Prepare materials and handouts
- Review lesson plan and objectives

Bell Work / Entry Task (5-7 mins)

- Have students complete a quick quiz or survey to gauge prior knowledge
- Review essential questions and big ideas
- Introduce the day's objectives and activities

Opening/Hook (10 mins)

- Show a video or presentation to introduce the topic
- Ask students to share their thoughts and questions
- Introduce the hands-on activity or experiment

Engagement Strategies:

- Think-pair-share
- Group discussions
- Hands-on activities

Direct Instruction (20-25 mins)

- Provide clear instructions and demonstrations for the hands-on activity

- Review key concepts and vocabulary
- Answer student questions and provide feedback

Checking for Understanding:

- Formative assessments
- Quizzes and surveys
- Class discussions

Guided Practice (25-30 mins)

- Have students work in groups to complete the hands-on activity
- Circulate around the room to provide guidance and feedback
- Encourage students to ask questions and seek help

Scaffolding Strategies:

- Provide additional support for struggling students
- Offer challenges and extensions for advanced students
- Use visual, auditory, and kinesthetic approaches

Independent Practice (20-25 mins)

- Have students work independently to complete a related task or project
- Provide feedback and guidance as needed
- Encourage students to reflect on their learning

Closure (10 mins)

- Review key concepts and objectives
- Ask students to reflect on their learning
- Provide feedback and encouragement

Differentiation & Support Strategies

For Struggling Learners:

- Provide additional support and guidance
- Offer one-on-one instruction or small group work
- Use visual, auditory, and kinesthetic approaches

For Advanced Learners:

- Offer challenges and extensions
- Provide opportunities for independent work and research
- Encourage students to create and present their own projects

ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and graphic organizers
- Use simple language and clear instructions
- Offer one-on-one support and guidance

Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage teamwork and collaboration
- Teach empathy and self-awareness
- Provide opportunities for reflection and self-assessment

Assessment & Feedback Plan

Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Quizzes and surveys
- Class discussions and group work
- Hands-on activities and experiments

Success Criteria:

- Participation in all 20 hands-on activities
- Completion of a reflective journal or portfolio
- Design and implementation of an independent ocean science experiment
- Presentation of findings to the class or at a science fair

Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback
- Written feedback
- Peer feedback

Homework & Extension Activities

Homework Assignment:

Have students complete a reflective journal or portfolio entry on their learning

Extension Activities:

- Research and present on a related topic
- Design and conduct an independent experiment
- Create a public service announcement or poster

Parent/Guardian Connection:

Encourage parents and guardians to ask their child about their learning and provide feedback

Teacher Reflection Space

Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?

Introduction to Ocean Science

Ocean Principle 1: The Earth's ocean is the single, interconnected, global system that covers most of our planet. **Ocean Principle 2:** The ocean and life in the ocean shape the features of the Earth. **Ocean Principle 3:** The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate.

Hands-on Activities

Activity 1: Ocean in a Bottle

- Create a model of the ocean's layers using a plastic bottle and various materials
- Discuss the importance of ocean literacy and the impact of human activities on the ocean

Activity 2: Coastal River Delta Model

- Build a 3D model of a coastal river delta using clay and other materials
- Discuss the role of coastal river deltas in the ocean system and their importance for human communities

Coastal River Delta Ecosystems

Ocean Principle 4: The ocean makes Earth habitable. **Ocean Principle 5:** The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems. **Ocean Principle 6:** The ocean and humans are inextricably linked.

Hands-on Activities

Activity 3: Wetland Diorama

- Create a diorama of a coastal wetland ecosystem using a shoe box and various materials
- Discuss the importance of coastal wetlands for biodiversity and human communities

Activity 4: River Delta Food Web

- Create a food web diagram of a coastal river delta ecosystem
- Discuss the interconnectedness of species in the ecosystem and the impact of human activities

Ocean Chemistry and Physics

Ocean Principle 7: The ocean's resources are limited, and its health is threatened by human activities.

Chemical Properties: Discuss the chemical properties of seawater, including pH, salinity, and dissolved gases.

Physical Properties: Discuss the physical properties of seawater, including temperature, density, and buoyancy.

Hands-on Activities

Activity 5: Density Column Experiment

- Create a density column using different liquids and objects
- Discuss the concept of density and its importance in ocean science

Activity 6: Ocean Acidification Simulation

- Simulate ocean acidification using a tank and pH indicators
- Discuss the impact of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems and human communities

Human Impact on the Ocean

Human Activities: Discuss the impact of human activities on the ocean, including pollution, overfishing, and climate change. **Conservation Efforts:** Discuss conservation efforts and strategies for mitigating the impact of human activities on the ocean.

Hands-on Activities

Activity 7: Oil Spill Simulation

- Simulate an oil spill using a tank and oil
- Discuss the impact of oil spills on marine ecosystems and human communities

Activity 8: Marine Pollution Sorting Game

- Sort marine pollution into different categories and discuss the impact on coastal ecosystems
- Discuss strategies for reducing marine pollution and promoting sustainability

Formative Assessments

Quizzes and Surveys: Use quizzes and surveys to monitor student progress and understanding throughout the unit. **Class Discussions and Group Work:** Use class discussions and group work to assess student participation and engagement. **Hands-on Activities and Experiments:** Use hands-on activities and experiments to assess student understanding and application of ocean science concepts.

Summative Assessments

Final Project or Presentation: Have students complete a final project or presentation that demonstrates their understanding of ocean science concepts and their ability to apply them to real-world issues. **Written Exam:** Administer a written exam to assess student knowledge and understanding of ocean science concepts.

Class Time

2-3 class periods per week for 10 weeks: Allocate sufficient class time to cover all the topics and activities in the unit. **Lab Time:** Allocate sufficient lab time for hands-on activities and experiments. **Independent Work:** Allocate sufficient time for independent work and research.

Time Management Strategies

Create a Schedule: Create a schedule to manage class time and ensure that all topics and activities are covered. **Prioritize Activities:** Prioritize activities and allocate time accordingly. **Be Flexible:** Be flexible and adjust the schedule as needed to accommodate unexpected events or changes.

Hands-on Activities

Hands-on Activities: Use hands-on activities to engage students and promote deeper learning. **Real-world Applications:** Use real-world applications to make the learning relevant and meaningful. **Collaboration:** Encourage collaboration and teamwork to promote peer-to-peer learning and support.

Technology Integration

Digital Tools: Use digital tools and software to collect and analyze data, create presentations, and communicate findings. **Online Resources:** Use online resources to provide additional support and guidance for students. **Virtual Field Trips:** Use virtual field trips to provide students with opportunities to explore and learn about ocean science concepts in a virtual environment.