

EXPLORE A WORLD OF WONDER
WITH THIS BACKPACK!

Ocean Animals

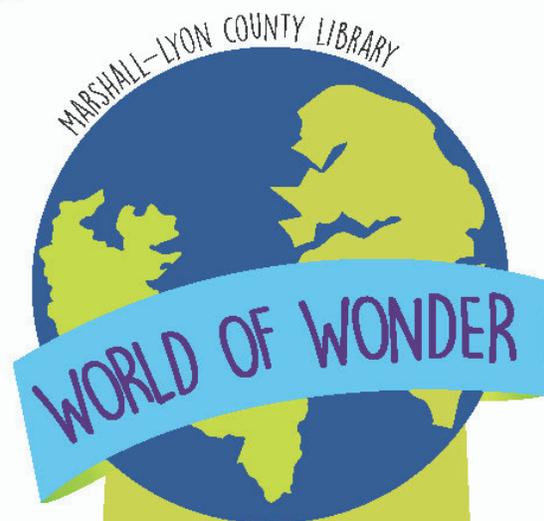
GRADES K-2

BOOKS IN THIS KIT

- Big Blue Whale | Nicola Davies
- Down, Down, Down | Steve Jenkins
- First Big Book of the Ocean | Catherine Hughes
- Life in the Ocean | Claire Nivola
- Weird Sea Creatures | Laura Marsh

MORE BOOKS AT MLCL

- A School of Fish | Alex Kuskowski
JUV NONFIC 591.77 KUS
- Ocean Animals From Head to Toe | Stacey Roderick
JUV NONFIC 591.77 ROD
- Ocean Food Chains | Angela Royston
JUV NONFIC 577.7 ROY
- Octopus Oyster Hermit Crab Snail | Sara Anderson
JUV NONFIC 811.6 AND



IDEA

After reading "First Big Book of the Ocean," add a gross motor component just to have some fun. Act like ocean animals by imitating their moves. For example, walk like a crab or move like a dolphin.

GET LOCAL

What's your favorite sea creature? Maybe you simply can't decide? Check out the SEA LIFE Minnesota Aquarium at the Mall of America in Bloomington, MN to help you make up your mind. Check them all out, from the curious and the rescued to the rare and enigmatic.





Echolocation Time

ACTIVITY

The ocean is a very noisy place. And it's a good thing, too! As light fades deep in the ocean, animals can no longer see. They must rely on their sense of hearing to

survive. Toothed whales use echolocation to find food - they make clicking noises that echo off nearby objects, giving the whale valuable information about what is in front of them (hopefully a tasty fish).

WHAT YOU NEED

- Blindfold
- Piece of heavy cloth (carpet square, sweatshirt, blanket)
- Piece of paper (8.5" x 11" or larger)
- Large piece of foil
- Basketball

TRY THIS

1. Talk about echolocation together. Why do some whales need to use echolocation to find food?
2. Show your child the activity supplies. Are different sounds made if the basketball is bounced off different items (cloth, paper, foil)?
3. Explain that the foil represents a rock, the paper represents a delicious fish and the cloth represents a seal.
4. Tell your child they are going to pretend to be a whale in the dark ocean. They will find food using echolocation. Blindfold your child. Lay the cloth, paper and foil in front of them on the ground.
5. Hand your child the ball. Explain that each drop of the ball is like the "click" of a whale. Drop the ball. Can they guess what material they hit? Was it food or just a rock? Repeat for each material.

GOING FURTHER

Listen to whales' songs online.

Take a quiz to see if you can tell the difference between species. (static.lawrencehallofscience.org/kidsite/portfolio/whale-sounds)

FIELD NOTEBOOK

Talk together about the importance of sound for whales and other ocean animals. Record your findings in the notebook.