Raven Tree Press LLC

Children's Bilingual Picture Books

Activity Guide #1

Ocean Whisper / Susurro del océano

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Subjects
Science
Geography
Art

Brief Description
In this activity, children work individually or in groups to learn whale identification and habitat and identification of ocean wildlife and plant life.

Objectives
- Participation in group activities increases interpersonal skills
- Correctly identify locations on a map or globe
- Learn to identify animal species and locate habitats

Key Words
Whales, migration, ocean, art projects, coloring pages

Grade Level(s)
K-4

Materials Needed
Reference books
Internet access
Maps/Globe

Activities
There are many varieties of whales in the world. Read the whale descriptions listed below. Then:
- Find a picture of each variety in reference books or on the web.
- Locate the home of each whale on a map or globe.
- Chart the paths of the migrating whales on a map or globe.

For Example:
- Beluga Whale— Belugas live in the cold Arctic and sub-Arctic waters. Some migrate south to warmer water in the summer. Belugas are called "sea canaries." They make many different noises and some sound like songs. Some of these sounds can even be heard above the water. Their songs and sounds are used to communicate with other belugas. They are also know as white whales because when they are white-ish as adults.

- Blue Whale—Blue whales live alone or in very small pods (groups). They often swim in pairs. They have two blowholes near the top of the head. They spout (breathe) about 1-4 times a minute when they rest. They spout 5-12 times a minute after a deep dive. Blue whales are very fast swimmers. They can swim up to 24-30 mph in quick bursts of speed when they are in danger.
- Humpback Whale— Humpback whales are an endangered species. They are also very talented and can sing songs and do acrobatic moves. They jump high out of the water and slap the water as they come back down. This is called breaching. They live in pods (groups). Each whale has two blowholes. Humpback whales arch their backs out of the water when they get ready for a dive. That's why they are called humpbacks.
- Orca or Killer Whale— Killer whales, or Orcas, are toothed whales. They are also marine mammals. They are the biggest dolphin in the dolphin family. They sometimes act like wolves and are called "wolves of the sea." Humans are their only enemy. They live in pods of 6-40. They can wander hundreds of miles to find food. Male orcas can live 50-60 years. Female orcas can live up to 90 years. They are in no danger of extinction.
- Sperm Whale—The sperm whale has the biggest brain of any animal. It gets its name from the spermaceti oil that it makes. This oil is made in its spermaceti organ (located in its head). Sperm whales eat fish, giant squid and octopus. The hunted shark in the book *Moby Dick* was a sperm whale. Sperm whales stick their tail out of the water, swing it around and slap it on the water's surface. This is called lobtailing. This may be a kind of warning. Or, it may be a way to talk to other whales in the pod.

Activity Guide Source
Raven Tree Press, LLC, publisher

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