SUMMER ADVENTURES ON THE ROAD

Tell Your Story
DID YOU KNOW?

Human beings have been telling stories as long as we have lived on this planet. Stories can be spoken or written; stories can be pictures or photographs too. People tell stories to explore the world and to explore themselves. Stories can capture experiences, reflect culture, inspire action, and evoke imagination.

Stories also reflect the storyteller. Creating stories that matter to us is a powerful act and an opportunity to share who we are and what we have experienced with others. Listening to the stories of others is an act of empathy and an opportunity to open our minds to the experiences of others.

The storytelling activities that follow will provide you with the opportunity to imagine, reflect, explore, act, and empathize with the planet and its inhabitants - expanding the long-held tradition of storytelling on Earth.

READY TO EXPLORE?

- PG 3
  Deep Dive Poetry
  Ages 4-8

- PG 7
  Live! In the Ocean
  Ages 4-8

- PG 9
  The Secret Life of Sea Otters
  Ages 4-8

- PG 11
  Unexplored Ocean
  Ages 9+

- PG 13
  Ocean Headlines
  Ages 9+

- PG 15
  Ocean Urban Legends
  Ages 9+

Book List

- Book Quest: The Wild Robot
- Book Quest: Strange Birds
DEEP DIVE POETRY

ACTIVITY | Ages 4-8

MATERIALS
Device with internet connection (optional)
Pen or pencil

TO DO

Select one of the sanctuary views from the Virtual Dive Gallery of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and follow the steps below to turn your virtual dive into an original poem!

1. Use your senses. Imagine you are taking this dive in real life. Describe what you see, hear, feel, smell, and even taste as if you were really there. Fill in the web on the following page to brainstorm all the senses you imagine you would have if you experienced the dive in person.

2. Choose the best descriptions from your web and complete the prompts on Page 5 to create the middle of your poem and beginning and ending lines.

3. Write your poem on Page 6 or special paper and illustrate it with beautiful ocean plants and animals!
DEEP DIVE POETRY: BRAINSTORM WEB

I SEE...

I HEAR...

YOUR NAME:

I SMELL...

I TASTE...

I FEEL...
DEEP DIVE POETRY: CRAFT YOUR POEM

1. Choose the best descriptions from your web and complete the sentences below to create the middle of your poem.
   
   I see ____________________________________________________________

   I hear __________________________________________________________

   I smell __________________________________________________________

   I taste __________________________________________________________

   I feel ____________________________________________________________

2. Write the first line of your poem that introduces a reader to your dive experience. Here’s a start if you need an idea: I dove deep into the ocean and I...

   _______________________________________________________________

   _______________________________________________________________

   _______________________________________________________________

3. Write the last line of your poem to bring your ideas together. Here are some ideas to get you started:

   I know _________________________________________________________

   I hope __________________________________________________________

   I wish __________________________________________________________

4. Write your poem on the following page or special paper and illustrate it with ocean plants and animals!
**LIVE! IN THE OCEAN**

**ACTIVITY | Ages 4-8**

**MATERIALS**
Device with internet connection  
Pen or pencil

**TO DO**
Experience the wonder of ocean wildlife such as those pictured below with live cameras at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

What might sea otters be doing right this minute?

When you get ready for bed by the light of the moon, are the moon jellies sleeping too?

When you brush your teeth, are the sharks showing theirs?

Now is your chance to find out. Even better, turn what you see into a story about life at sea! Use the story builder on the following page to map the beginning, middle, and end of an ocean story inspired by what you see on three different live cams that you choose.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BEGINNING OF THE STORY</strong></th>
<th><strong>MIDDLE OF THE STORY</strong></th>
<th><strong>END OF THE STORY</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do you notice?</td>
<td>How does the problem</td>
<td>Who else is there?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe the setting.</td>
<td>get solved?</td>
<td>Describe the setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is the main character?</td>
<td>How does the problem</td>
<td>Describe the setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What problem does the character have?</td>
<td></td>
<td>What do you notice?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will the characters solve the problem together?</td>
<td></td>
<td>What do you notice?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIVE! IN THE OCEAN: STORY BUILDER**

**LIVE CAM #1**

**LIVE CAM #2**

**LIVE CAM #3**
THE SECRET LIFE OF SEA OTTERS
ACTIVITY  | Ages 4-8

MATERIALS
Device with internet connection
Pen or pencil

TO DO
1. Learn about sea otters by exploring facts, stories, videos, and photos from the Monterey Bay Aquarium. List three awesome facts you learned about sea otters:

   FACT 1: ____________________________
   FACT 2: ____________________________
   FACT 3: ____________________________

2. These three facts describe a sea otter and its life, and this otter will be the main character of a story only you can write! Imagine your sea otter character and answer the following questions about them:
   ▶ What is its name?
   ▶ Where does it live?
   ▶ What does it eat?
   ▶ What does it like to do?
   ▶ What does it need most?
   ▶ What does it want most?
   ▶ What does it fear most?
   ▶ What is its deepest secret?

3. Use the story builder on the following page to imagine the sea otter’s story.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STORY BEGINNING</th>
<th>STORY MIDDLE</th>
<th>STORY END</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the setting?</td>
<td>What is the main problem facing the sea otter?</td>
<td>How does the sea otter's problem get solved? How does the sea otter change?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the situation?</td>
<td>What do they do about it?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNEXPLORED OCEAN
ACTIVITY  |  Ages 9+

MATERIALS
Device with internet connection (optional)
Pen, pencil, colored markers or crayons

TO DO
An estimated 97 percent of the world’s water is found in the ocean. Because of this, the ocean significantly influences weather, temperature, and the food supply of humans and other organisms. Despite its size and impact on the lives of every organism on Earth, the ocean largely remains a mystery. More than 80 percent of the ocean has never been mapped, explored, or even seen by humans. A far greater percentage of the surfaces of the moon and the planet Mars has been mapped and studied than of our own ocean floor.

You are an ocean explorer setting out to explore an unmapped area of the sea. Write the story of your journey and create a map of the ocean you discover. Consider where you go, what it feels like, what you learn, and the impact of what you discover for others. Be creative and imagine how the world might change by learning more about the uncharted areas of the ocean. What mysteries might you solve?
**OCEAN HEADLINES**

**ACTIVITY | Ages 9+**

**MATERIALS**
Device with internet connection
Pen or pencil

**TO DO**
What we learn and discover about the ocean is changing all the time, and the need to act more urgently on behalf of the ocean also shifts from day to day and year to year. In 2020, the ocean headlines included these fascinating stories. Imagine you are a journalist on the ocean beat: pick one of these stories, then investigate the headline by researching the event and how the news has shifted since it was first covered. Use the table below to conduct your investigation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What happened?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When did this event occur?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where did this event occur?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why did it happen?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How might we respond?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interesting facts or details...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Updates to this story since it was covered in 2020...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once you have conducted your investigation into the event, write a news story for this moment about the event. Consider the questions:

- How has this issue shifted?
- What else have we learned about this event since 2020?
- What do we still need to know or do?
NEWS STORY HEADLINE
OCEAN URBAN LEGENDS
ACTIVITY  |  Ages 9+

Use the story builder on the following page to help you brainstorm an original urban legend inspired by these scary stories of the sea. Now tell your tale if you dare!

MATERIALS
Device with internet connection
Pen or pencil

TO DO
Because the ocean is so mysterious for humans, it has been the inspiration for many scary stories and urban legends since people have been watching its waves crash to shore and sailing its waters to far-off lands. Read some of these ocean urban legends and choose one to inspire an original fictionalized account from your own imagination.

Who were the ghost divers?  
How did the submarines vanish? 
Where did the disappearing crews go?

Use the story builder on the following page to help you brainstorm an original urban legend inspired by these scary stories of the sea. Now tell your tale if you dare!
| Where and when does the story take place? | Describe the setting. |
| Who are the main characters? | Describe them. |
| What is the main conflict? | What challenges do these characters face? |
| How does the conflict get resolved? | Describe the main conflict. |

**OCEAN URBAN LEGENDS: STORY BUILDER**

**STORY TITLE:**
FULL LINKS

PG 3
Virtual Dive Gallery  |  NOAA
https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/vr/monterey-bay/

PG 7
Live cameras
https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams

PG 9
Facts, stories, videos, and photos
https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/animals-a-to-z/sea-otter

PG 11
Mysteries
https://www.thetravel.com/what-are-the-mysteries-of-the-ocean/

PG 13
Fascinating stories

PG 8
Ocean urban legends
https://oceanconservancy.org/blog/2017/10/31/ocean-horror-story-urban-legends-sea/