



Roper Mountain Science Center

Pre-Visit/Post-Visit Guide

Lesson Name: Marine Explorations

Summary of Lesson:

Examine marine life up close and personal as you explore our marine habitat and discover how they can only survive in environments where their basic needs are met.

South Carolina Science Standards: 3.L.5A .1, 3.L.5B.1

Pre-Visit Resources

- **Teacher/Chaperone Expectations:** Please help us by letting us know of any special accommodations for your children prior to the lesson. Your assistance with classroom management and distribution of supplies will also be greatly appreciated. Shellfish are fed to the salt water touch tank animals, please be aware of anyone has possible allergies. Keep an eye on students with any possible skin issues (like cuts and eczema) because the salt water may bother them.
- **Instructions for Teachers:** Please report to the Harrison Hall of Science for this lesson. Your instructor will meet you at the front desk and take your class to the Lab.
- **Key Vocabulary:** Physical Characteristics, Marine Environment, Resources, Organisms, Diversity, Energy, Predator, Prey, Adaptations
- **Key Questions Addressed in Lesson:** What are the characteristics of coral and coral reef habitats? Why are our coral reef and predator tanks separate? How does our refugium help seahorses survive? What are some animal characteristics that help them survive in the coral reef and surrounding sandy bottom ocean habitats? How have humans affected the oceans and what can we do about it?
- **Content Preview Video:**
 - Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2BKd5e15Jc> (9:21) Explore the coral reef and be familiar with some of the animals you will see in our Marine Lab in the Coral Reef Exhibit.

Post-Visit Resources

- **Writing Prompt:** You are a small fish trying to survive in the coral reef. Write a diary entry about why you are considering the tropical coral reef habitat to raise a family.
- **Possible Lesson Link:**
 - Go to <https://firstgraderatlast.blogspot.com/2011/06/ocean-food-chains.html> for a great idea to model marine food chains.
- **Video Link**
 - Science Up with the Singing Zoologist presents the "Ocean Food Chain Song." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttOZKOGdjR8> . (3:56)
- **Career Connections:**
 - "When your job is saving the ocean" (4:02) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-dv0B0q1c>

- BBC Earth Unplugged presents "How do you become a marine biologist?" (4:38)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qggwuL07JtI>