

Coral Reef Center: Teacher Page

Art:

Tissue Paper Coral: Split the class into groups for center activities. Have different groups make different corals: fire, Elkhorn, and pillar. Hang in the classroom windows to allow the light to shine through the tissue paper.

Stuffed Coral Reef Animals: A large work area is needed for this project. Have the younger students draw simple shapes on the butcher paper, such as: fish, ray, starfish, clam, turtle, etc. Older students could choose more complicated coral reef animals to make, such as: seahorse, crab, lobster, jellyfish, etc. They will also be able to make their projects more detailed (with markers) than the younger students. Have the students write an acrostic poem and hang it with fishing line from their finished coral reef animal. Hang the finished projects from the ceiling to turn the classroom into your very own coral reef!

Science:

Matching: This is a great center activity for lower elementary students.

Coral Reef Animal Definitions: This is a center activity for upper elementary students. Most questions can be answered without reference materials, but keep them available for the students that might need them.

Research Activity – Unusual Animals: This activity gives students a choice of which unusual animal they would like to research. A computer or reference materials will be needed for this center activity. Have crayon, markers, or colored pencils available for the students to draw and color a picture of the animal that they chose. Students could share what they have learned with their center group or with the whole class.

Coral Reef Formations: This activity is both a research and a hands-on activity for upper elementary students. After the students have completed their papers, they can choose a coral reef formation and make it out of clay. A 6" x 6" square of cardboard should be large enough for any of the formations. Any size will work but the larger the size of cardboard the more clay will be needed. The students can be as creative as they wish to be by painting, adding sand, etc. depending on the amount of center time allotted and supplies available.

Language Arts:

All of the language arts pages can be used during center time or pick and choose which ones you would like to use for the time you have allotted.

ABC Order: Use the seven question page for primary students and the 15 question page (ABC order to the second letter) for elementary students.

Using Adjectives: Choose the five-question page for primary students and the twelve-question page for the upper elementary students, depending on their abilities.

Writing Activity – DIVE IN!: Use center time to write and draw into journals. Have materials available for students to make journal covers and to draw in their journal pages.

Geography:

Using Latitude and Longitude: Have a globe (or world map) available for this center so the students can locate the different coral reefs.

Reading a Map (three lessons): Have a globe (or world map) available for this center so the students can find locations in each question. Use the five-question page for primary students and the ten-question page for the upper elementary students. The map page is suitable for elementary and upper elementary.

Math:

Coral Reef Survey: This activity can be done during center time, during which each group would report their favorite animals to the class, or students could tell their favorite animal to the class during roll call. Center time can also be used to graph the results and answer questions.

Reading and understanding graphs: Use one or both of the graph pages depending on the time you have.

Double Bar Graph: Use this activity for upper elementary students.

Tile equations: For use with lower elementary students. Print off several copies of the colored tile pages, laminate them, and cut into squares. Equation pages can either be copied one for each student or laminated to be used over and over.

Puzzle:

Word Unscramble: Use the five-question page with pictures for primary students and the fifteen-question page for upper elementary students.

Word Search: There are three different levels of word search puzzles: easy, medium, and hard to choose for your students for this activity.

Crossword Puzzle: This puzzle is for upper elementary students.