

Elementary Lesson Plan

Science Grade 4

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will explore the local marine ecosystem.
2. Learn about dolphin behavior.
3. Understand the importance of coastal conservation efforts.

TEK ADDRESSED

Science (4.10) - Organisms and Environments: The student knows that organisms undergo similar life processes and have structures that help them survive within their environments.

PRE-TRIP ACTIVITIES

1. **Introduction to Marine Ecosystems:** Begin by discussing what ecosystems are and introduce the concept of marine ecosystems. Show pictures or videos of marine habitats and the diverse organisms that inhabit them.
2. **Dolphin Behavior:** Teach students about dolphin behavior, including communication, feeding habits, and social interactions. Discuss the importance of dolphins in the marine food web.

FIELD TRIP- ON BOARD EXPLORATION

1. **Guided Tour:** Take students on a guided tour of the local marine ecosystem aboard a boat. Point out key features of the environment, such as estuaries, marshes, and coastal habitats.
2. **Dolphin Watching:** Engage students in dolphin watching activities, encouraging them to observe and record dolphin behavior. Discuss how dolphins interact with their environment and other marine organisms.

POST-TRIP ACTIVITIES

1. **Coastal Conservation Poster:** Have students create posters highlighting coastal conservation efforts. They can include information about protecting marine habitats, reducing pollution, and preserving wildlife.
2. **Reflective Writing:** Prompt students to write journal entries reflecting on their field trip experience. Encourage them to describe what they learned about the marine ecosystem and how they can contribute to its conservation.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed based on their participation in pre-trip discussions, observations during the field trip, and the quality of their post-trip projects and reflections.