

INTRODUCTION TO CARDINAL DIRECTIONS / LESSON OVERVIEW

Objectives

The students will:

- be able recite the four cardinal directions: north south, east, and west;
- use the terms north, south, east, and west to describe swimming patterns of the sharks on the Global Shark Tracker™ over a period of three days;
- and use a map of North America to plot three “ping points” that a pretend shark is going to make and describe the movements of that shark using cardinal directions.

Lesson Summary

Introduction (10 – 20 minutes)

- Discuss the importance of maps.
- Identify a compass rose and learn the four cardinal directions – north, south, east, and west.
- Why is it important for shark researchers to know directions?

Activity 1. Where are the sharks going? (20 – 30 minutes)

In this activity, students will become familiar with the Global Shark Tracker™ and the four cardinal directions. Using directions, students will study the swimming patterns of sharks.

Activity 2. Directions and Maps (30 minutes)

In this activity, students will use their listening skills and their new knowledge of cardinal directions to fill in a map of the United States of America!

Activity 3. Ocean Scenes (15 minutes)

In this activity, students will use cardinal directions to create their own ocean scene!

Materials

- Computer with internet access
- Projector, ELMO, or smartboard
- Worksheet (provided)
- Pencil
- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers
- White art paper or construction paper