

OCEAN ZONES / LESSON OVERVIEW

Objectives

The students will:

- Identify the five different ocean zones;
- Learn the unique characteristics of each ocean zone;
- Learn about animals that live there;
- Learn about the adaptations that help animals survive in specific ocean zones,
- Learn how animals are identified by what they eat.

Lesson Summary

Part 1. The First 1,000 Meters

Students are introduced to and learn about the sunlight zone and twilight zone. What are their characteristics and what animals are found there?

Part 2. To the Deepest of Deeps

Students move deeper into the ocean to learn about the midnight zone, abyssal zone, and hadal zone. What are their characteristics and what animals, if any, are found there?

Part 3. Sharks and Their Zones

Sharks are very unique and all have special adaptations depending on the habitat they live in. Here, students will learn about three different sharks, what zones they are found in, and what adaptations they have to help them survive.

Activity 1. Comparing Zones

During this activity, students will use Venn diagrams to compare and contrast the five different ocean zones. One will compare and contrast the sunlight zone and the twilight zone and the second one will compare and contrast the midnight zone, abyssal zone, and the hadal zone.

Materials

- Comparing Zones Handout
- Writing Utensils, color pencils, crayons, markers
- Computer, tablet, or phone (optional)
- Internet access (optional)
- Library books (optional)