

OCEAN MIGRATIONS / LESSON OVERVIEW

Objectives

The students will:

- Learn what migration is;
- Learn the different reasons why animals migrate;
- Learn about different animals in the ocean that migrate;
- Learn how we are working to discover more information about shark migration.

Lesson Summary

Part 1. Introduction to Migration (3-5 minutes)

Many species of animals travel hundreds and even thousands of miles each year in search of food, water, and shelter and to breed. This type of travel is called migration...

Part 2. Sea Turtle Migrations (10-15 minutes)

Learn how and why sea turtles migrate. How do scientists study the migratory patterns of sea turtles?

Part 3. Salmon Migrations (10-15 minutes)

Salmon are widely known for their epic migration up rivers to spawn (to lay eggs) where they were originally hatched themselves. Why would salmon go through such great lengths to do this?

Part 4. Shark Migrations (10-15 minutes)

Biologists have discovered that many shark species migrate for some of the same reasons as other ocean animals - to feed, breed, and even to maintain body temperature. However, very little is known about where the sharks migrate to, when, why, or whether they travel alone, in pairs, or in groups. We do know that these answers vary from species to species and even from individual to individual thanks to the studies being conducted by OCEARCH scientists and other leaders in the marine biology field.

Activity 1. Migration Story

Marine biologists have discovered that many shark species migrate for some of the same reasons as other marine animals. In this story book activity, students will get to decide what happens to their shark on each page of its story. Where will it go? What will it do? How will the shark's migration story end?

Materials

- Paper (plain, lined, or construction)
- Writing/coloring utensils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Stapler and staples