

Awesome Kidz 3

Unit 6 Lesson 4



Aim: - Students will identify and name ocean animals. They will develop fine motor skills by tracing animal names and practice letter formation and pre-writing skills.

Time: 45-60 minutes

Materials:

- Pencils, crayons, or markers
- Sand trays or finger-paint for tactile tracing (optional)
- Ocean animal toys or flashcards (if available)

Tip: Support for Fine Motor Development: For younger children who may struggle with tracing, consider providing thicker pencils or crayons for an easier grip. You can also offer hand-over-hand guidance to help them form letters.

Engage:

- Start by asking the students: "Can you tell me the names of some animals that live in the ocean?"
- Show pictures or toys of ocean animals (whale, octopus, turtle, starfish, crab, fish) and encourage the children to repeat the names after you. This will help them become familiar with the vocabulary before they start tracing.

Tactile Exploration

- Introduce a sand tray or finger-paint station for tactile exploration of letter shapes. Let the children practice "writing" letters with their fingers in the sand to warm up before using pencils. This activity engages the Montessori sensory approach and allows students to feel the movement of the letters.

Explore & Practice:

With the book

- Give each child the book and a pencil or crayon. Explain that they will trace the names of each ocean animal. As they trace, say each animal's name aloud: "Whale, octopus, turtle..."
- Encourage them to take their time and focus on forming each letter correctly. This builds fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination, essential for pre-writing.

Animal Matching

- Once they have traced the names, point to each picture and ask them to say the animal name out loud: "What's this animal? It's a whale!"

- For further engagement, you can match the animal toys or flashcards to the pictures on the worksheet, reinforcing the connection between the written word and the real animal.

Animal Movements

- After tracing, invite the children to act out how each ocean animal moves. For example:

- Wiggle like a fish
- Crawl like a crab
- Stretch like an octopus

- This movement activity helps children connect their learning to physical expression.

Closing:

Show and Tell

- Ask each child to share their traced book page and say the name of their favorite ocean animal. This encourages verbal expression and gives them pride in their work.

- You can also ask: "Which animal was the hardest to trace? Which one was the easiest?"

Storytime

- End with a brief ocean-themed story or song to tie the lesson together. For example, tell a story about a turtle swimming through the ocean meeting the other animals they just traced.

