



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Lesson Plan

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Title: What Belongs on a Beach?

Objective: Students will determine what belongs in a natural beach environment and what doesn't.

California Science Standards: K: 3a, 3c, 4e

Time to Complete: 30 minutes

Materials Provided by CMA Ocean Discovery Kits: *Worksheet: What Belongs on a Beach?, Photo: Stormdrain, Photo: Trash on the Beach*

Materials Provided by Teacher: Copies of coloring sheet

Vocabulary: Non-natural (man-made), habitat, pollution, harmful

Lesson Outline:

1. Discuss the beach environment using *Worksheet: What Belongs on a Beach?*
What can they see? What makes a beach a beach? Is the beach a habitat or a place where animals live? What animals do they see?
2. Ask students if they can see some things that do not belong on the beach.
3. Ask students if they would want to swim in a dirty ocean or build a sandcastle on a dirty beach.
4. Ask students to circle the objects that do not belong on a beach and draw a line to cross them out.
5. Color in the rest of the picture. Students can draw themselves into the picture doing their favorite beach activity.

Lesson Wrap-Up:

1. Ask students if they've been to the beach (or a park) before and seen trash? What did they do with the trash (leave it where they found it? put it in the trash can / recycling bin?)
2. Ask students if they've noticed trash in the street outside in their neighborhood. What do they do when they see trash in the street?

Lesson Extensions:**Storm Drains**

1. Do students know that trash in the street can get pushed to storm drains and end up in the ocean? Trash moves from streets to storm drains, then to rivers and moves through the rivers to the ocean when it rains.
2. Storm drains are meant to carry water from our streets to the ocean, but many times non-natural (trash) items get mixed in with the rain water on our streets.
3. By removing trash from the streets, it's just like crossing out the trash on their picture! The trash doesn't go to the ocean and we help to keep our oceans clean.

Further Student Exploration:**Learning about Storm Drains**

1. Locate the nearest storm drains around your school. Notice there might be a picture painted on the sidewalk over the storm drain (of a dolphin or other ocean animal).
2. Ask students to notice what materials you find around the storm drains.
3. Divide materials into natural and non-natural (man made) categories.
4. Remind students about the most recent rainstorm. Do they remember seeing a lot of water in the street? Did it look like a small river? Ask them where all those items in the street and by the storm drain would go if water was running into the storm drain.
5. Option: take a trash/recycle bag with you and remove the small and large trash items from the storm drain area, using gloves if necessary.
6. Congratulate your students for helping to keep the ocean clean.