



PUZZLES!

Grades K-3



LET'S PUZZLE!

Students will work together to solve a puzzle

ALOHA!

10 min

STORY & SNACK

20 min

SPORTS / GAMES

30 min

Materials:

- Parachute
- Scissors
- Colored paper to make sea animals: whales, dolphins, various fish, sea turtles, starfish, sea urchins, sea horses, etc.

Aloha is Hawaiian for hello!

Greet your students. Be friendly. Use their name, ask a question, give a high five, or thumbs-up! Take roll. Mark down which students took a snack and tally how many snacks were given out.

Read the story:

Today's story is called Hello Sea. Read the story to your students outside as they sit in a circle.

Parachute Diving Game

Players will play a parachute diving game where they will "swim" under the parachute and gather the sea creatures.

Instructions- The STEM Coach will prepare the sea animals by cutting them out of colorful paper. Prepare enough sea creatures so that every player can collect at least one. To play the game, spread all the sea animals out on the ground underneath the parachute. Have the players gather around the parachute with everyone holding onto the edges. Begin by having them make waves with the parachute. Players will go around the circle taking turns diving into the ocean to collect a sea animal. For each player's turn, have everyone say the name of the player going and a little chant. For example, they can say, "Ellie, Ellie, what can you see?" Then Ellie would dive under the ocean, and bring back a sea animal, and say, "I see an Orca swimming with me!" Ellie would bring back the whale cutout and place it in a pile, then take her place at the parachute to continue making waves for the next player to go. Once everyone has had a turn the game can end or begin again.

STEM TIME

50 min

Materials:

-  Puzzle

Can You Solve the Puzzle?

Say- "Today we are going to solve a puzzle together! Solving puzzles is a fantastic way to develop organizational and categorical skills. It is also a great way to practice problem solving. These skills are important in coding and math."

Explain:

Choose a puzzle for the students to solve together. Some students may be familiar with puzzles, and others may have never done a puzzle like this before. When solving a puzzle there are some techniques that can be used. Share the following techniques with the students.

Instructions:

1. Flip over all the pieces.
2. Find all of the border pieces. These are the pieces with a flat edge.
3. Form the border.
4. Gather pieces that look like they belong together. They might have the same colors or patterns.
5. Form little piles of these pieces.
6. Try putting them together in the space that looks like they might belong there.
7. Experiment with the pieces and little by little the puzzle will come together.

Ask:

"What techniques are working for you?" "How many pieces have you been able to put together so far?"

Instructions:

Say - "Today we got to solve a puzzle! Write a journal entry about your experience."

Clean up/Free play/Dismissal

Allow your students some free time. Some students may wish to finish working on their STEM project. Others may want to journal or scrapbook about their day. Other students may want to go outside to play. Clean up, pack up.

NATURE JOURNALING

15 min

CLEAN UP / FREE PLAY

25 min

