



CORAL

Grades K-3



MAKE A CORAL GARDEN

Students will make a coral garden out of play-doh

ALOHA!

10 min

STORY & SNACK

20 min

SPORTS / GAMES

30 min

Materials:

- Water Balls
- Water source to refill water balls
- Chairs
- Music

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 Palu, Man of the Sea. Read the first half of the story to your students outside as they sit in a circle.

Water Ball Musical Chairs

Students will play musical chairs with water balls.

Instructions- Set up a chair for every player but one. Before beginning the game, put a water ball on each chair. Have students circle up around the chairs. When the music begins, they will walk around the chairs. When the music stops, the players must sit on the water balls. When seats are taken, the person remaining is out. Take away a chair and put refilled water balls on each remaining chair. Then the next round continues. As more students get out, they can have a dance party and play with other water balls while the others play the game.

STEM TIME

50 min

Materials:

- Playdoh or modelling clay
- Pipe cleaners
- Pasta noodles with holes in the middle (eg. macaroni, penne etc)

Make a Coral Garden

In this lab students will be making a coral garden using a play-doh, pipe cleaners, and pasta noodles. Read the directions with your students so they understand the basic idea of what they'll be doing. Remind students that this is not for eating!

Explain:

- Explore some reefs on Google Earth. Articulate the broad importance of coral reefs and understand that they are threatened. Students will also build their own coral reefs using classroom materials.

Today we get to make our own coral reef. What kind of coral garden will you make?"

Instructions:

1. Have a discussion with the students relating that coral is a tiny animal that lives like a single creature with thousands of other small corals in a "colony"—and many colonies together can make coral reefs!
2. Students will work in pairs to explore some of the coral reefs on Google Earth. They will click through the [link](#).
3. Ask the students where in the world do they think the pictures are from?
4. Students will show their favorite image they found of a coral reef from Google Earth to their partner. The partners will discuss where in the world both of their reefs are from.
5. The students will come together as a class to discuss patterns and trends they notice.
6. Set out the modelling clay or playdoh as well as the pipe cleaners and pasta noodles .
7. Encourage the students to design their own coral reef or link up with a partner or everyone work together to create a coral colony!

Ask:

Are there other examples of ecosystems that are important for people?
Why might they be important?

Instructions:

Say - "Today we got to do a fun activity full of creating our own coral gardens. 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

