Cultural consideration: Though no one theme may reach out to every learner, the theme of ocean animals is a bridge between ocean lovers the world over.
All About Sea Turtles

Ben Remington


ISBN-10: 0545497051

Availability/Format: Paperback (only through scholastic). Part of a guided science reader set.

Guided Reading Level: D

DRA: 6

Interest Level: PreK- 2

WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering/Emerging

Book Description and Benefits:

All About Sea Turtles is a simple book that highlights some basic facts about sea turtles. The book's facts focus around turtle habits, habitat and reproduction. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because of its ability to convey factual information with simple language. The book weaves together facts with a high volume of high frequency words (the, to, his, be) and simple science vocabulary (eggs, born, home). Additionally, the book has clear, engaging photographs that closely match the text and visually cue the reader on text and content.
Sharks
Betsey Chessen


**ISBN-13:** 9780590638814

**ISBN-10:** 0590638815

**Availability/Format:** Paperback

**Guided Reading Level:** B

**DRA:** 2

**Interest Level:** PreK-1

**WIDA Proficiency Level:** Entering

**Book Description and Benefits:**

*Sharks* is an informational text that highlights the body parts of sharks. Each page depicts a body part and its purpose. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because of its ability to convey factual information in patterned language. The book lists important shark attributes and behaviors without using too many challenging words or complex connective phrases. Additionally, the book has real photographs that closely match the text and visually cue the reader on text and content.

**Book Specific Resources:**

Connection to a unit:

[http://www.oakland.k12.mi.us/LinkClick.aspx?link=Learning/ESL+EL+1.600+Community+Helpers.pdf&tabid=3308&mid=10432](http://www.oakland.k12.mi.us/LinkClick.aspx?link=Learning/ESL+EL+1.600+Community+Helpers.pdf&tabid=3308&mid=10432)
What Comes in a Shell?
Susan Canizares & Betsey Chessen


ISBN-10: 059638785
Availability/Format: Paperback
Guided Reading Level: B
DRA: 2
Interest Level: PreK- 2
WIDA Proficiency Level: Emerging

Book Description and Benefits:

What Comes in a Shell is an informational text that lists several animals who live in shells for protection. The animals listed typically dwell in the ocean and saltwater tide pools. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because of its predictable language pattern and simple vocabulary. On each page the only new word in the pattern is the name of the animal depicted on that page. This makes the illustrations a very important cueing guide for the reader. Additionally, the illustrations are clear simple photographs that are both engaging and focus only on one species.

Book Specific Resources:

Connections to units:

Observing an Aquarium


**ISBN-13:** 9781592423729

**ISBN-10:** 1592423728

**Availability/Format:** Paperback

**Reading Level:** First Grade

**Interest Level:** 1st grade - 3rd grade

**WIDA Proficiency Level:** Emerging/Low Developing

**Book Description and Benefits:**

*Observing an Aquarium* is an informational text that discusses fish living in aquariums as well as in a variety of natural habitats. The book's information stretches from fish body parts, fish life cycle, and how fish breathe. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because it provides specific and detailed information about fish in very simple language. Though the text itself is very simple, the book includes important nonfiction text features such as a table of contents and a glossary. Additionally, the book's photographs and simple labels and headings interact in such a way to very clearly support the text.

**Book Specific Resources:**

Publisher created teacher guide:

What can a diver see?

Jacob Fink


ISBN-10: 0792286561

Availability/Format: Paperback

Reading Level: A

DRA: A-1

Interest Level: PreK-1

WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering

**Book Description and Benefits:**

*What Can a Diver See* is an informational text that labels items in underwater photographs. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because it requires very little pre-teaching. The labels are so explicitly directed to the item the text represents, that this text is perfect for teaching new vocabulary words with pictorial clues. Additionally, the text lends itself to introducing the use of labels in nonfiction text.

**Book Specific Resources:**

Literary focus guide:

A Dolphin is Not a Fish
Betsey Chessen


ISBN-10: 059638823

Availability/Format: Paperback, hardcover, school and library binding

Reading Level: C
DRA: 3

Interest Level: PreK-2

WIDA Proficiency Level: Emerging

Book Description and Benefits:

A Dolphin is Not a Fish is an informational text that focuses on dolphin attributes. The book lists all the attributes of dolphins, as mammals, that are different than that of fish. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because it compares and contrasts two large ocean animal groups in simple repetitive language. The book provides two pictures for each comparison (one of a fish and other a dolphin).

Book Specific Resources:

Connection to a thematic unit approach:

http://shelf1.library.cmu.edu/HSS/a683196/a683196.pdf

Connection to a year’s curriculum:

http://www.coreknowledge.org/mimik/mimik_uploads/lesson_plans/194/PASSPORT%20TO%20THE%20WORLD.pdf
Flyers and Swimmers

Jo Windsor


ISBN-10: 075785995X

Availability/Format: Paperback

Reading Level: C

DRA: 3

Interest Level: PreK-2

WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering/Emerging

**Book Description and Benefits:**

*Flyers and Swimmers* is an informational text that talks about animals that can both fly and swim. The text includes two pictures of each animal per page. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because it is a simple introduction to the idea of flying fish using analogous concepts. The book shows multiple pictures of birds that fly and swim (which is likely a believable/relatable idea) and compares that to a fish who also does both. The patterned language and picture cue patterns make the concept easier to understand.
Coral Reef
Susan Canizares & Mary Reid


ISBN-10: 059076182X

Availability/Format: Paperback

Reading Level: D
DRA: 6

Interest Level: PreK-2

WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering

Book Description and Benefits:

Coral Reef is an informational text that talks about colors and the types of patterns found naturally within a reef's ecosystem. This book is a strong resource for ELLs because its patterned language closely matches its clear photographic illustrations. Additionally, the color of font cues the reader on the color word highlighted on that page.

Book Specific Resources:

Connection to units:


Ocean
Susan Canizares & Pamela Chanko


ISBN-10: 059638866
Availability/Format: Paperback
Reading Level: C
DRA: 3
Interest Level: PreK-1
WIDA Proficiency Level: Entering/Emerging

Book Description and Benefits:

Ocean is an informational text that introduces the reader to the concept of what the ocean does and what it contains. This book is a strong resource for ELLs as it has simple language and uses many high frequency words to pull together the text. The illustrations are composed of clear and engaging photographs that very closely match the text.

Book Specific Resources:

Connection to unit:

http://www.connected-learning.org/Products/sstorelu23.htm
Sea Turtles

Martha E. H. Rustad


**ISBN-13:** 9780736890823  
**ISBN-10:** 0736890823  
**Availability/Format:** Paperback  
**Reading Level:** C  
**DRA:** 3  
**Interest Level:** PreK-1  
**WIDA Proficiency Level:** Emerging

**Book Description and Benefits:**

*Sea Turtles* is an informational text that discusses the anatomy, habits and habitats of sea turtles. This is a strong resource for ELLs because of its simple language. The words are a combination of high frequency words and simple vocabulary. Additionally, the clear photographic illustrations interest the reader and highlight the language used.

**Book Specific Resources:**

Connection to units:


[http://teachershare.scholastic.com/resources/14136](http://teachershare.scholastic.com/resources/14136)

[http://www.uen.org/Lessonplan/preview.cgi?LPid=5690](http://www.uen.org/Lessonplan/preview.cgi?LPid=5690)
Additional Resources and Extensions on Ocean Animals

Live aquarium exhibit cameras:

http://www.tennesseeaquarium.org/OurAnimals/SecretReefCam.aspx?gclid=C0eszevp8bwCFRSUfgodUSEAoA

http://www.apl.tv/pacific-reef.htm

http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/exhibits/webcams/

Video Clips:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASnUclgbJvQ

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdYEF6AhAss

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mFDBtVupyqY

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5SsPmHR3nJl

Ocean Animal Crafts:

http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/ocean/

http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/ocean.html

http://www.pinterest.com/montereyaq/ocean-inspirations-crafts/

Local Field Trip Options:

http://biomescenter.com/

http://www.mysticaquarium.org/

http://www.riparks.com/ Locations/LocationBeavertail.html
The Booklist Project
A Project of the M.Ed. In TESL Program,
Feinstein School of Education and Human Development
Rhode Island College

For Further Information, Contact:
Nancy Cloud, Ed.D., Director
ncloud@ric.edu
Rhode Island College
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908