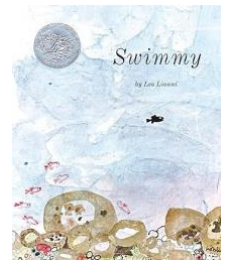




# Home Link - English



Dear Families: In this summer unit, your child will be learning about oceans, seashores, and tidepools through hands-on experiences. Try at least three of these fun learning activities, or do them all! The most important thing is to enjoy time with your child and learn about what is happening in the classroom. Please color in the boxes of the activities you choose and return this form to school next Monday. **HAVE FUN!**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Literacy

### **Recite Together:**

This is a poem your child learned at school.

### **Shell Shopping**

(see last page for poem poster)

*I went shopping for a shell,  
A cozy cave to call my own.  
A nice, safe place that would replace  
The smaller home I had outgrown.*

*First, I found...  
One too heavy, one too tight.  
One that didn't look quite right,  
One too twisty, one too wide,  
One with someone else inside.*

*And then - perfection!  
A shell just right for my protection.  
From sneaky gulls who'd like to grab  
A tasty lunch of hermit crab.*

## Discovery

### **Shore Combing:**

Visit a local area in your community, like a lakefront, beach, creek, or river. Comb the shore or the bank for items that children can collect (rocks, sticks, plants, shells, etc.).

### **Conversation Starters:**

- Tell me about the things you collected.
- How many items did you gather?
- What does your collection tell you about the habitat you visited and explored?

- **Words to Use during the Conversation:**  
*collection, gather, groups, sort*

## Talk and Read Together

(20 minutes)

### **Conversation Starters:**

- What do you think this book will be about?
- What is your favorite part of the book?
- What is the first thing that happens in the story?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Do you think this book is fiction or nonfiction?

## Math

### **Body Parts Equations:**

Encourage your child to build mathematical equations with body parts like fingers, toes, hands, arms, and ears.

### **Conversation Starters:**

- How many fingers do you have *plus* how many ears do you have?
- How many toes do you have on one foot? How many hands do you have? Now, *add* those two numbers together. That's right, the answer is seven!

## Language

### **Making Labels for Your Collection:** Related to Discovery – see above

Talk to your child about the collection you have made together and invite him/her to create labels for it.

## Reading Log

Check off each day that you and your child read a story together. The books can be in English or in your home language. Visit your public library for great books about oceans and seashores!

Monday \_\_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_ Sunday \_\_\_\_

### **Books we are reading in school:**

*Swimmy* by Leo Lionni  
*A Baby Lobster Grows Up* by Katie Marisco

### **Other books you and your child might enjoy:**

*How to Hide an Octopus* by Ruth Heller

## Tips for Reading Together:

- Sit together in a quiet, cozy spot.
- As you read, highlight and define new vocabulary. For example, “A **habitat** is the natural home where a plant or animal lives.”
- As you read, ask your child questions pertaining to the book. For example, “What kind of habitat do hermit crabs live in?”

# Shell Shopping

I went shopping for a shell,  
A cozy cave to call my own.  
A nice safe place that would replace  
The smaller home I had outgrown.

First I found...

One too heavy, one too tight.  
One that didn't look quiet right,  
One too twisty, one too wide,  
One with someone else inside.

And then-perfection!

A shell just right for my protection  
From sneaky gulls who'd like to grab  
A tasty lunch of hermit crab.

