



Let's Find Out About It: What Is the Ocean?

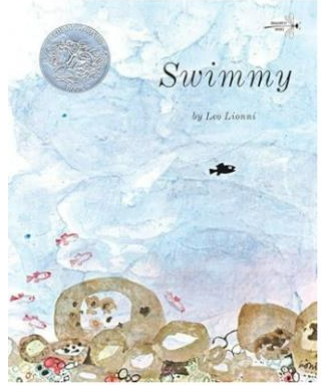
Standard Connection:
ELA.SL.PK4.1-3, 6
ELA.L.PK4.6
S.LS.PK4.3
SS.OW.PK4.2

Enduring Understanding(s):

- Animals have unique characteristics. Some of these characteristics help them to survive in their habitat.
- Like humans, animals are part of interdependent communities that are affected by and adapt to the environment that surrounds them.

Essential Question(s):

- How do animals form communities, work together, and use and adapt to their environment?

Materials	Vocabulary	Books
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Swimmy</i> • image of map (see Resource) • images of sea animals/plants (see Resource from U7/Week 1: Creative Arts, Watercolor Fish and Crayon Resist) 	<p>coral reef: a structure in the sea made up of the skeletons of tiny sea animals</p> <p>fish: an animal with fins and gills that lives in the water</p> <p>ocean: salt water that covers most of the Earth</p> <p>sea: another name for the ocean</p>	

Let's Find Out About It:

Preparation: *Set up materials.*

"Here is a map, or globe, of our Earth. Which color do you notice the most? Yes, blue. That is because most of our Earth is covered by oceans ."	Show map. Children respond.
"Have you ever been to the beach? The water that is at the beach is the ocean . The ocean can also be called the sea . Did you know a whole world exists in the ocean ? There are animals and plants in the ocean ."	Show children pictures of animals and plants that live in the ocean.
"Animals and plants in the ocean look different from the animals and plants we see on land. Some animals in the ocean breathe air like the ones on land, so they must live closer to the surface. Other animals, like fish , don't breathe air and live underwater all the time."	Show images of mammals and fish and discuss how fish and marine mammals are different. Children respond.
"The ocean is really deep; the deeper you go, the darker it is. There are bright parts like a coral reef and darker parts like the ocean floor."	Show images of coral reefs. Children respond.