

Ocean Commotion Activity: Magazine Project

NOTE: Adapted from the textbook: *Exploring Planet Earth*, Teacher's Edition, Prentice Hall Science, 1994.

Lesson Objective

Student groups create an ocean magazine cover and table of contents.

Grade Level

Grades 5-8, group activity

Materials per group of 2

Paper and drawing materials

Old magazines (especially nature, fishing & environmental)

Optional – computer with word processing software and drawing programs, and/or Internet access

Share what you learn



about our coast and sea
at Ocean Commotion 2000
(see instructions on front
page of this packet.)

Procedure

1. Students will create a magazine that contains stories and articles about some aspect of the ocean. Some examples of magazine types could include:
 - sports
 - ocean life (plant and/or animal)
 - future cities in the ocean
 - travel on the ocean
 - children's ocean magazine
 - seafood cooking magazine
 - ocean entertainment
 - ocean gardening (algae, oysters, etc.)
 - sci-fi ocean magazine
2. Students will draw a magazine cover for a sample issue. Have students check magazine covers to determine the type of standard information found on most covers. Students can use a graphics program or standard drawing materials to create the cover. The cover must have an appropriate title, pictures, date, volume, price, etc.
3. Students will write a table of contents of appropriate articles that could be found in an issue. Have students check magazines to determine the format of a table of contents page. Colorful pictures, advertisements, page numbers, etc. should be included. The students do not need to actually write the articles.
4. Students should also create a back cover for this magazine.

Note

- Students could display their magazines in the school library near the magazine section.
- Students could write an appropriate article for extra credit.
- If this activity is done after the fieldtrip to Ocean Commotion, students could find information at the exhibits to help design the magazines.

Example

Magazine

Titles:

Creatures of the Deep

Animals of the Deep Gulf of Mexico

Wacky Waves

Ocean entertainment

Lions & Tigers of the Sea

The Ultimate Journal on Shark Research

Sample Assessment

Ocean Commotion Activity: Magazine Project

Evaluation

Student Name: _____ Date _____

Partner (if any): _____

Magazine Title: _____

Assessment Item	Point Value	Assigned Value
Creativity	20 points	
Neatness	15 points	
Following directions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cover: appropriate title, pictures, date, volume, price, illustration• Table of Contents: appropriate list of stories, colorful pictures, advertisements, page numbers• Back Cover: illustration	15 points	
Total Points	50 points	

Comments:

LA Science Frameworks

LS-M-C3 – investigating major ecosystems and recognizing physical properties and organisms within each.

LS-M-C4 – explaining the interaction and interdependence of nonliving and living components within ecosystems.

LS-M-D1 – describing the importance of plant and animal adaptation, including local examples.

Ocean Commotion 2000: Becoming Stewards of Our Coast and Sea