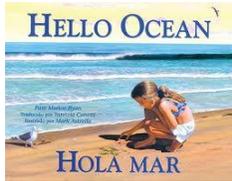




Beach Read-Aloud Outline

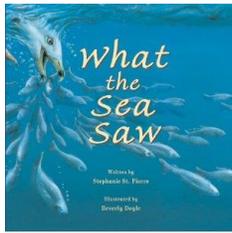
Bring the beach to your Read-Aloud! Set the mood by setting out beach towels and by lathering up with sunscreen. It will make the room smell like summer. The following books capture the sights, sounds, smells and textures of a day at the beach.



Hello, Ocean / Hola Mar by Pam Munoz Ryan

Ages 4 and up

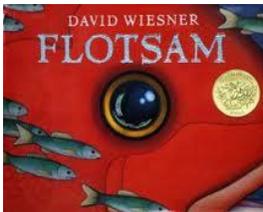
Glorious illustrations of water, sun and sky accompany brief verses. The text guides the reader through experiencing the beach with all the senses: sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell. This book is available in both English and in bilingual English/Spanish.



What the Sea Saw by Stephanie St. Pierre

Ages 4 and up

Beautiful pictures showcase the ocean ecosystem, giving kids a well-rounded understanding of what is under the ocean's surface.



Flotsam by David Wiesner

Ages 5 and up

This Caldecott Medal winner is a wordless wonder. A boy goes to the beach equipped to collect and examine flotsam — anything floating that has been washed ashore. A true mystery unfolds when he finds a barnacle-encrusted underwater camera.

More beach books

Over in the Ocean: In the Coral Reef by Marianne Berkes

Ages 3 to 6

Beach Day by Karen Roosa

Ages 4 and up

The Seashore Book by Charlotte Zolotow

Ages 4 and up

What Lives in a Shell? by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld

Ages 4 and up

Beachcombing: Exploring the Seashore by Jim Arnosky
Ages 4 to 12

Seashells by the Seashore by Marianne Berkes
Ages 5 to 9

Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold
Ages 7 and up

Activities

1. Bring a bucket of sand and a tub to make a sandbox (outdoors, if possible). What happens if you add water to the sand? Can the kids make a castle or fortress with damp sand?

2. Bring a collection of shells. Sort the shells and then describe them by shape, color, size, pattern, etc. To identify the shells, use a website with photographs and descriptions of many kinds of shells, like <http://www.seashells.org/alltheseashells.html>.

3. Make paper-plate aquariums. This simple aquarium diorama is made from two paper plates, construction paper and cellophane. Kids can cut out the fish and other sea creatures while adults prepare the dioramas. Instructions can be found at <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/diorama/aquarium/>.



4. Play an ocean guessing game. Kids take turns guessing items related to the ocean by sight, taste, sound and touch (blind-folded when appropriate).

- Natural sea sponge (sight/touch)
- Seagulls sound (sound)
- Ocean waves sound (sound)
- Sea shells (touch)
- Sand (touch)
- Salt water (taste)
- Seaweed (i.e., Japanese nori) (taste)

Conversation Starters

1. Have you ever been to the beach? Which one?
2. What would you want to see or do most at the beach?
3. Some beaches are sandy and others are rocky. Which one do you think you'd prefer?

4. Would you want to go in the water? Up to your knees? What about all the way underneath?
5. Lots of people like to surf at the beach. What do you need to go surfing?
6. How would it be different to go fishing at the ocean than at a lake?