

# Ocean from A to Z

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## Objective

Students will learn to identify organisms associated within the various marine zones.

## Introduction

The ocean zones stretch from the high tide line along the coast to the open ocean and from the shallow waters to the deepest trenches. Each zone houses a specific set of organisms, which when combined, makes the ocean more diverse than terrestrial systems. Students will explore this diversity by compiling a list and describing and/or depicting the marine organisms associated with the different oceanic zones.

## Materials

- Computers with internet access
- Reference books or magazines
- Construction paper
- Ribbon, string, yarn, etc.
- Hole puncher

## Procedure

1. Working with a partner, students will select an organism for each letter of the alphabet.  
Note: All oceanic zones should be represented by at least one organism.
2. After the students have selected an organism for each letter, they should record the common and scientific name of the organism on a separate sheet of paper.
3. For each organism, students will include in which ocean zone the organism is found and give 5 additional facts about the organism. Of the 5 facts, 3 must be specific adaptations the organism needs for survival in its environment.
4. At least half of the organisms (13) must be drawn in color.
5. Bonus is given for creativity and genuine effort.

## Questions

1. Why is it important to have the scientific name and not just the common name when identifying an organism?

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2. What organism did you find the most interesting and why?

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3. From the organisms that you selected, which part of the ocean is most represented? Why do you think that is so?

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