



Laura DiGiovanni	How Do Ocean Animals Stay Warm?
PS 53x	
Bronx, NY	Science
2004	Kindergarten
Wild Dolphin Societies	1 hour

Lesson Title	How do Ocean Animals Stay Warm?
Grade Level	Kindergarten
Content Area	Science
Time Allotment	1 hour
Academic Standard	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NY State Standard 1 - Analysis, Inquiry, and Design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students will use mathematical analysis, scientific inquiry, and engineering designs, as appropriate, to pose questions, seek answers, and develop solutions. 2. NY City Standard content topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Life Science ▪ Scientific Thinking
Abstract	Students will be able to experience a simulation of how blubber helps keep ocean animals warm. They will first hypothesize about how these animals stay warm, and how the temperature of the water will feel under certain conditions.
Goal	To have children become aware of a survival mechanism and compare it to their own needs to stay warm in winter.
Performance Indicators	Students will fill out a chart by circling whether or not their hand felt freezing, cold, or warm under several circumstances. They will also demonstrate understanding through discussion.
Background Information	Students will have already been exposed to animals like dolphins and whales and how they live, through literature and other activities. They will understand the concept of a living thing, and that it has

	needs. They will also begin to think about how human needs are similar.
Materials	Photos of dolphins and other animals in the winter; ice water, buckets, rubber gloves, petroleum jelly.
Technology	A computer will be used to produce the data/response chart.
Instructional Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will discuss their predictions and ideas for how a dolphin or whale keeps warm in cold water. They will view pictures of these animals in cold weather as a spark for conversation. 2. Students will divide into teams to test how they might protect themselves when plunging their hands into ice water. They will fill out a chart depicting the results. 3. First, they will dip their bare hand in the ice water, in a clear bucket. 4. Then, they will use a rubber glove to protect their hand, which will still have chilly results! 5. Lastly, they will coat the rubber glove in petroleum jelly before sticking their hand in the water, which will offer a protection similar to blubber. 6. Post-discussion will include identification of blubber as part of these animals and their bodies. It will also include comparison between blubber and bundling up on a cold day.
Assessment	Charts will be graded on the following scale – a happy face for a fully completed chart, an “okay face” to indicate that they should look it over, and an unhappy face for missing or incomplete work.
Connections to other Content Areas	This lesson is part of a fully comprehensive and multi-subject curriculum unit.
Extensions	Children could go on to compare other aspects of dolphin or ocean animal life to themselves.
Acknowledgements	www.discovery.com had this lesson plan idea

Contact information

digiovanninyc@yahoo.com