

# Ocean

# EXPLORATION



**Ocean Creatures**

## Puffer Fish

Puffer Fish are a special kind of fish that can inflate into a ball shape when they feel threatened or scared. They fill their stomach with air and water to blow themselves up and look bigger. Some Puffer Fish also have spines on their skin.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the Puffer Fish and answer the question below.

## Ocean Zones

Colored By: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNLIT ZONE**  
The large amount of light in this zone allows...



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Saltwater Experiment

Observations

Directions: Draw your results and answer the question.

tap water	saltwater

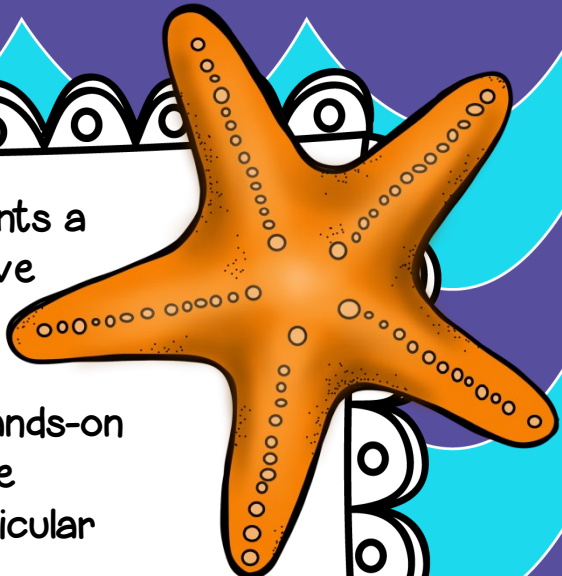
What happened to the egg when it was placed in the salt water?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

BY: CURRICULUM CASTLE



Curriculum Castle units are designed to give your students a well-rounded learning experience that stimulates their cognitive learning and creativity.

We believe that all great learning takes place through hands-on and interactive activities, and what you will find in each unit are supplemental lessons and ideas to make learning about a particular subject come to life in a concrete way.

Ideally, these units are a wonderful way to explore concepts that you have already introduced using books and discussion. That is why we begin each unit with a recommended reading list that is designed to help you gather the information needed for each topic.

Our products are perfect for classroom environments and homeschool learning. If you have any questions or comments about our units, please feel free to contact us at:  
[curriculumcastle@gmail.com](mailto:curriculumcastle@gmail.com).

*Thank you  
for  
downloading!*

# Recommended Book List

Find these books at your local library or buy online and start your own personal library.

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

Commotion in the Ocean by Giles Andreae  
The Magic School Bus: On the Ocean Floor  
by Joanna Cole

In the Sea by David Elliott

The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister

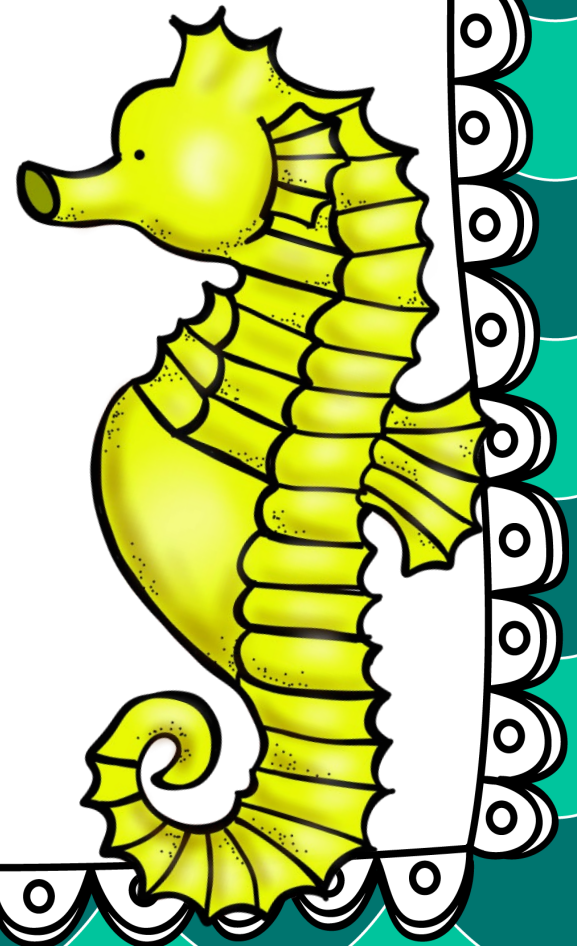
The Earth is Mostly Ocean by Allan Fowler

Splash! A Book About Whales and Dolphins  
by Gilda Berger

Life in the Oceans by Lucy Baker

The Underwater Alphabet Book by Jerry  
Pollotta

Wish for a Fish: All About Sea Creatures  
by Bonnie Worth



# Ocean Creatures

## Fish

All fish are vertebrates (have a backbone) that live in water.

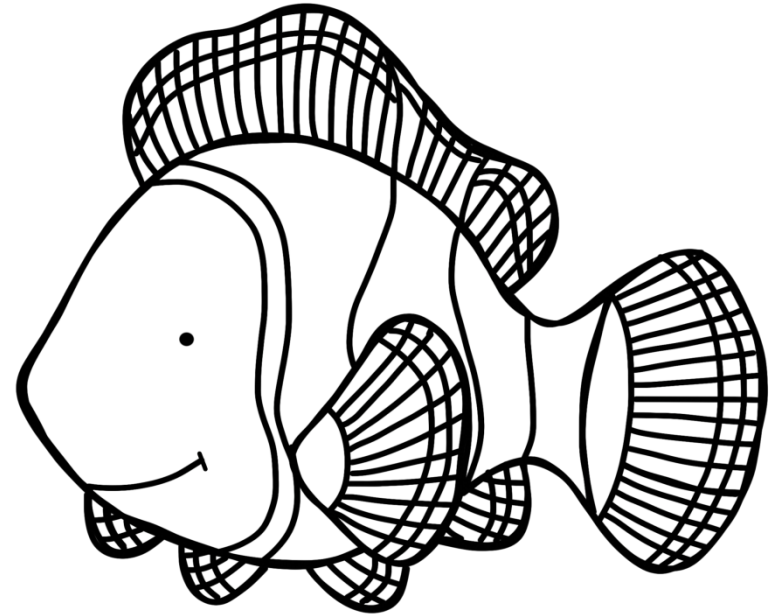
They are cold-blooded and breathe in water through their gills. Fish are covered in scales and have fins to help them move through the water with ease!

Did you know?

The largest fish in the world is the great whale shark. It can reach 50 feet in length!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the fish and fill in the blank below.



Fish use their  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to breathe  
underwater.

# Puffer Fish

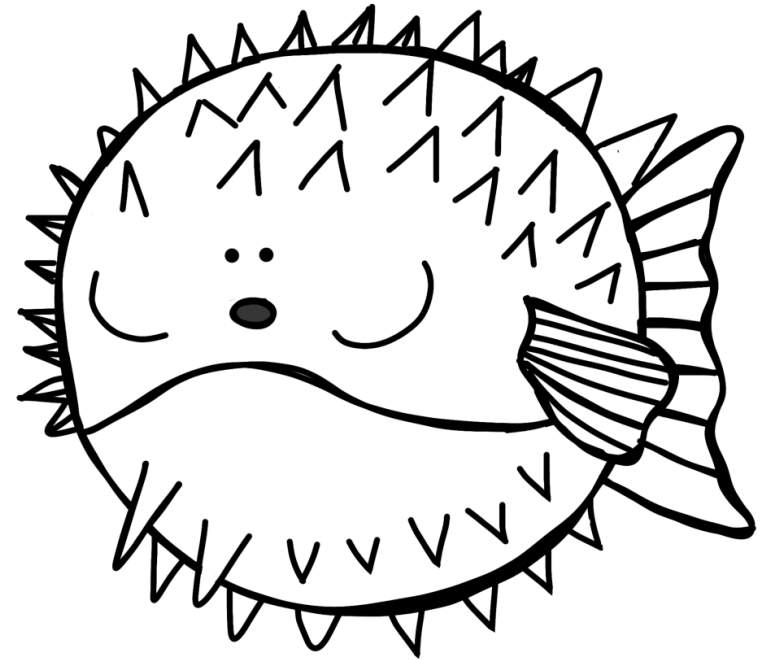
Puffer Fish are a special kind of fish that can inflate into a ball shape when they feel threatened or scared. They fill their stomach with air and water to blow themselves up and look bigger. Some Puffer Fish also have spines on their skin and contain toxins (poisons) to help protect them from predators.

Did you know?

Puffer Fish that are brighter in color are usually more toxic!

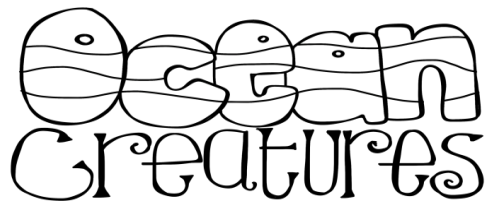
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the Puffer Fish and answer the question below.



Puffer Fish inflate their stomach with \_\_\_\_\_.

- water and seaweed
- air and sand
- water and air



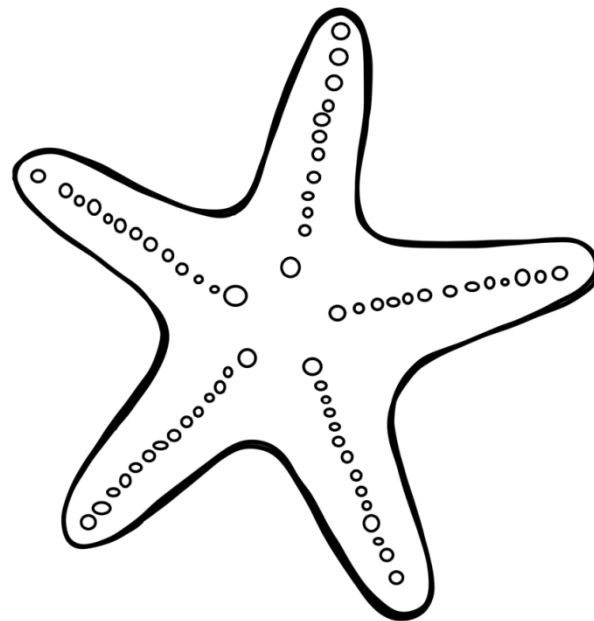
# Starfish

Starfish are not really fish! They are a type of sea urchin that cannot swim. They are found in every ocean of the world but never in fresh water. Most have five arms. Starfish are carnivores and like to eat clams, shells and mussels.

Did you know?  
Starfish can re-grow missing arms!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the starfish and answer the question below.



*True or False?*  
Starfish are great swimmers!

- TRUE
- FALSE

# Seahorse

A seahorse is a type of fish that has a horse-like shape and a curled tail. Since it is small and does not swim quickly, a seahorse can be easily moved by the ocean's currents. It is able to stay in one place by wrapping its tail around coral and seaweed.

Did you know?

The male seahorse can carry up to 2,000 babies in its front pouch!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the seahorse and fill in the blank below.



A seahorse wraps its  
\_\_\_\_\_ around  
coral and seaweed .

# Ocean Creatures

## Jellyfish

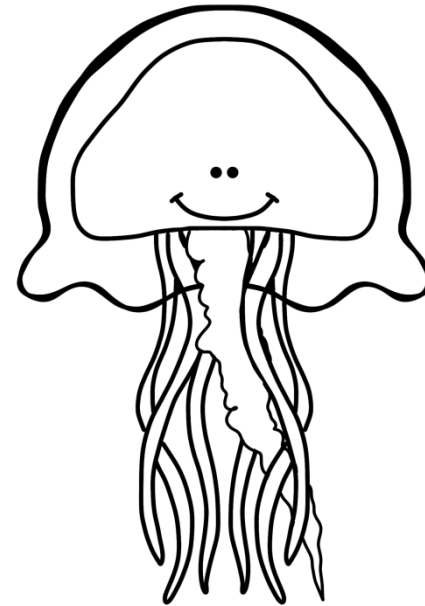
Jellyfish are not really fish at all! They are invertebrates (do not have a backbone). Jellyfish drift along on ocean currents with tentacles hanging down their smooth bag-like body. The tentacles on a jellyfish can sting their prey and also protect them from predators.

Did you know?

Jellyfish move in quick forward motions by squirting water from their mouths.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

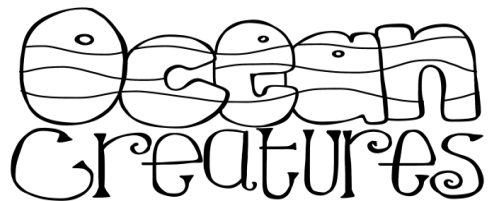
Directions: Color in the jellyfish and answer the question below.



Jellyfish use their tentacles to \_\_\_\_\_.

- eat
- sting
- hide





# Mollusks

Mollusks are soft-bodied animals that can be found in the ocean. They don't have skeletons but some do have shells. Clams, mussels, octopuses and squids are all types of mollusks.

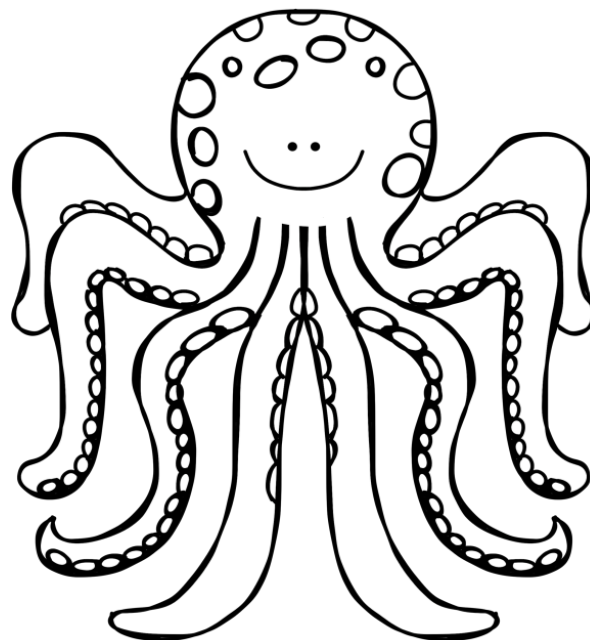
Did you know?

These are two ways that an octopus can defend itself against predators:

- ✓ They can change color to blend in with their surroundings
- ✓ They can squirt out ink to distract a predator

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the octopus and answer the question below.



*True or False?*

Clams and squid are both types of mollusks.

TRUE

FALSE

# Ocean Creatures

## Dolphin

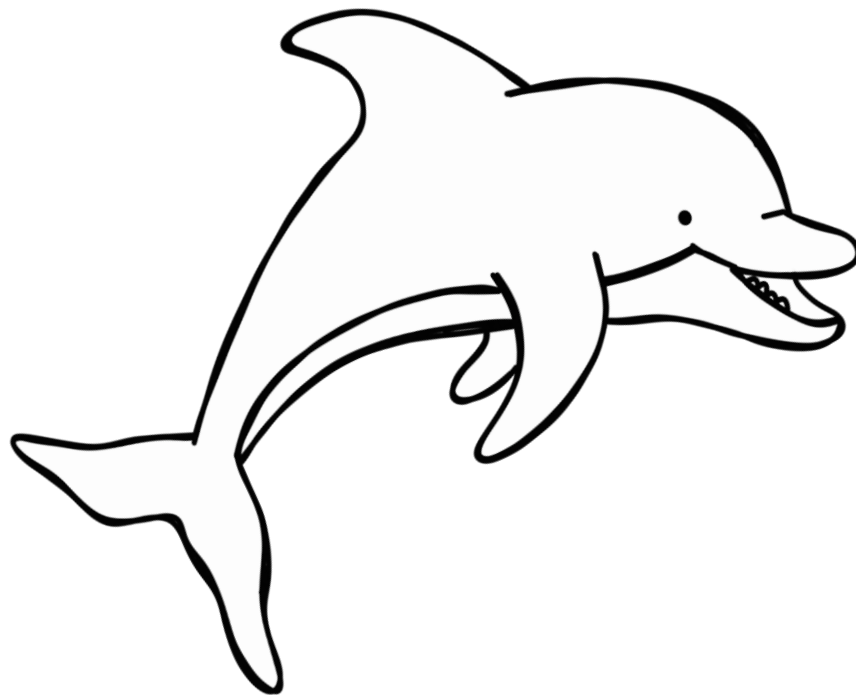
Dolphins are mammals that cannot breathe underwater. They can stay underwater for about 15 minutes before coming to the surface for air. They live in groups called pods, which are formed by 10-12 dolphins. Dolphins mainly eat fish and squid. They are able to communicate with each other through sounds and whistles.

Did you know?

The largest dolphin is an Orca, also known as a "Killer Whale"!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the dolphin and fill in the blank below.



Dolphins live in groups  
called \_\_\_\_\_.

# Ocean Creatures

## Whale

Whales are a type of ocean mammal. They breathe air using a blowhole at the top of their head. There are two types of whales: Baleen and Toothed. Baleen Whales eat krill and plankton, while Toothed Whales eat fish and small seals.

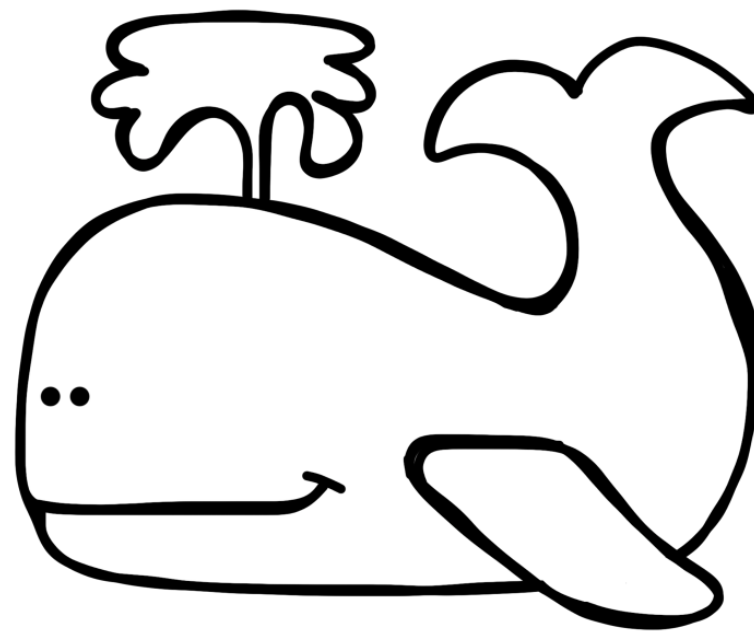
The Blue Whale is the largest animal in the world!

Did you know?

Whales can swim as fast as 30 miles per hour.

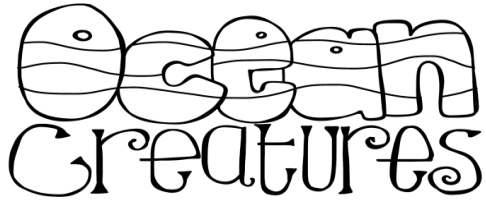
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the whale and answer the question below.



The largest animal in the world is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- Blue Whale
- Gray Whale
- Humpback Whale



# Shark

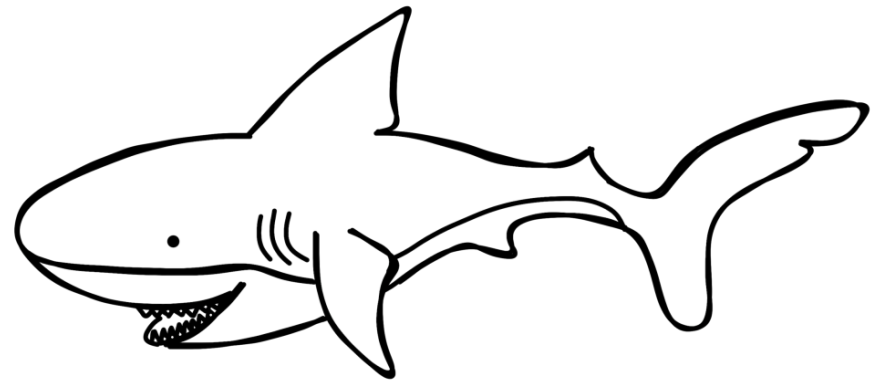
Sharks belong to a family of fish that have skeletons made of cartilage instead of bone. They breathe underwater using gills and also have scales. All sharks have multiple rows of teeth. They lose teeth often. New teeth grow in to replace the ones they lost.

Did you know?

Sharks have a great sense of smell. They can smell blood that is miles away!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the shark and answer the question below.



*True or False?*

A shark is a type of fish.

TRUE

FALSE

# Ocean Creatures

## Sea Turtle

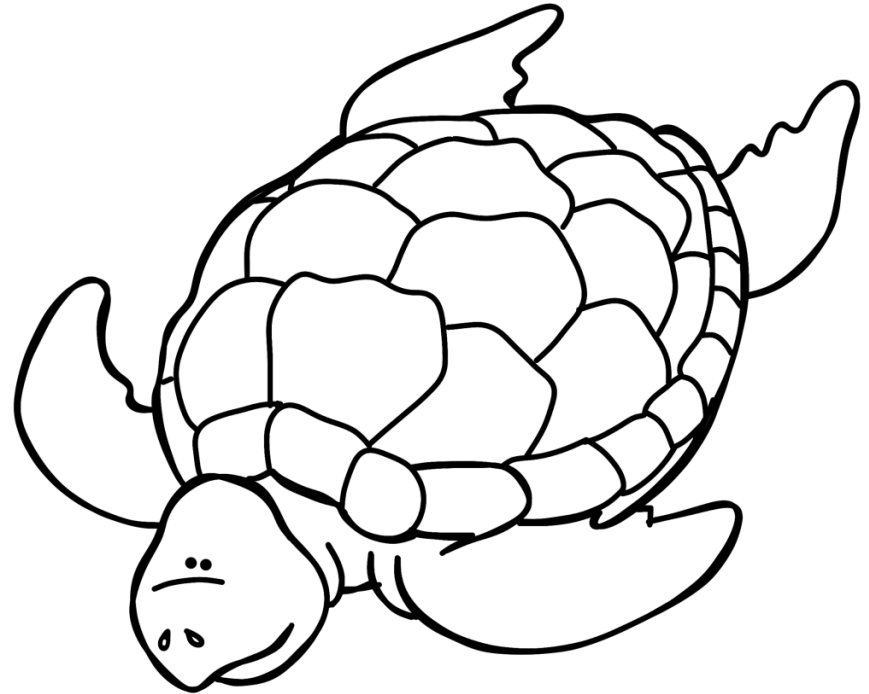
Sea turtles are a type of ocean reptile. They are cold-blooded, have scaly skin, breathe air and lay eggs. They prefer warm seas and stay in shallow coastal areas like lagoons and bays. Like other turtles, sea turtles have a hard shell that acts as armor and protects them from predators.

Did you know?

Many sea turtles can hold their breath underwater for over 30 minutes!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the sea turtle and fill in the blank below.



A hard \_\_\_\_\_  
protects sea turtles  
from predators.

# Crustaceans

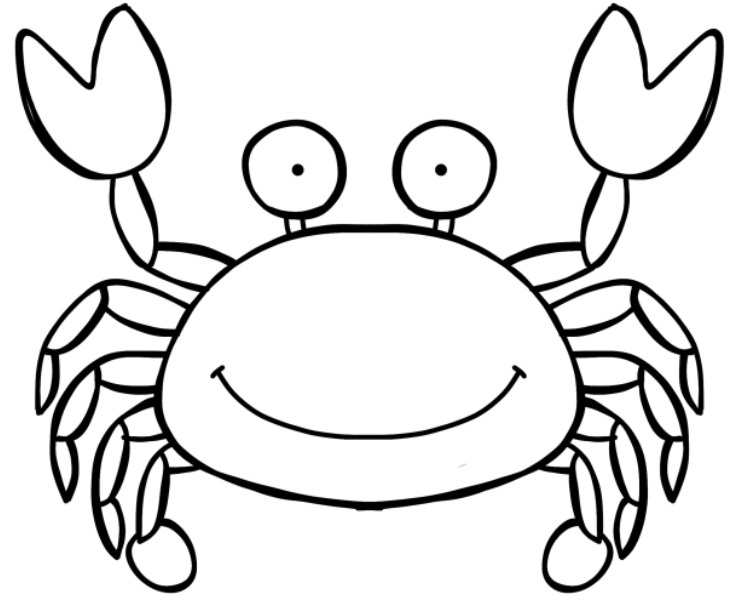
Lobsters, crabs and shrimp are different types of crustaceans. All crustaceans have hard skin, gills and two pairs of antennae. Many are scavengers that feed on scraps of dead sea animals. Crustaceans have exoskeletons which means they wear their skeletons on the outside.

Did you know?

Crabs walk and swim sideways. They have ten legs: eight walking legs and two claws!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Color in the crab and answer the question below.



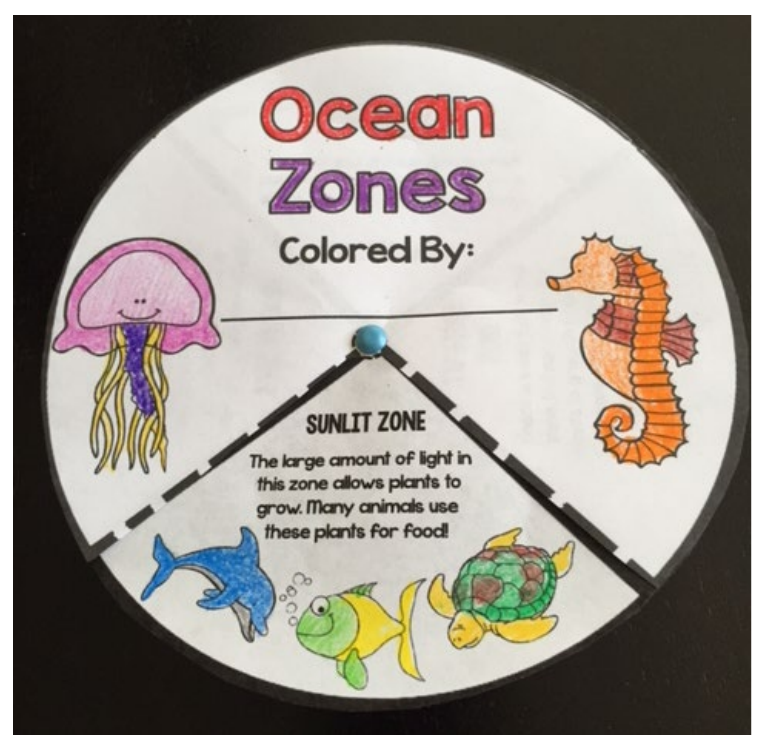
Lobsters, crabs, and shrimp have \_\_\_\_\_.

- tentacles
- blow holes
- exoskeletons

# Ocean Zones Wheel Craft

## Materials:

- Templates on pages 16&17
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers
- Metal brad



## To Make This Craft:

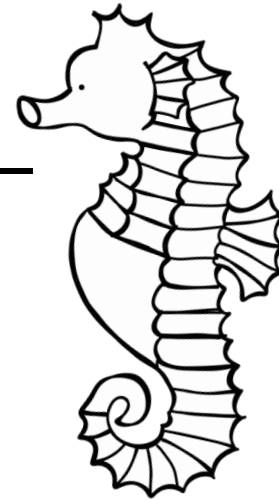
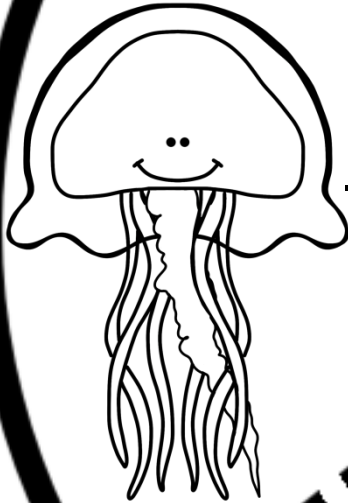
1. Print out the "wheel" templates on pages 16&17. Use cardstock to ensure extra durability.
2. Have students color and cut out both wheels. On the front of the wheel, they will need to cut out the dashed portion to create a "window".
3. Instruct students to color the sea animals as you discuss each ocean zone. Read the wheels together, and then you can have the students read them to a partner if desired.
4. Help students put the craft together by placing the front of the wheel on top of the back portion of the wheel and securing both pieces together using a metal brad in the center hole.
5. Have students write their name on the front of the wheel.
6. Now the craft is ready to spin and read again and again!

Note: Sea animals pictured are as follows -- Sunlit Zone (dolphin, fish, sea turtle); Twilight Zone (starfish, crab) ; Midnight Zone (clam, cuttlefish, eel); Abyssal Zone (giant squid, angler fish).

“ocean zones”  
front of wheel

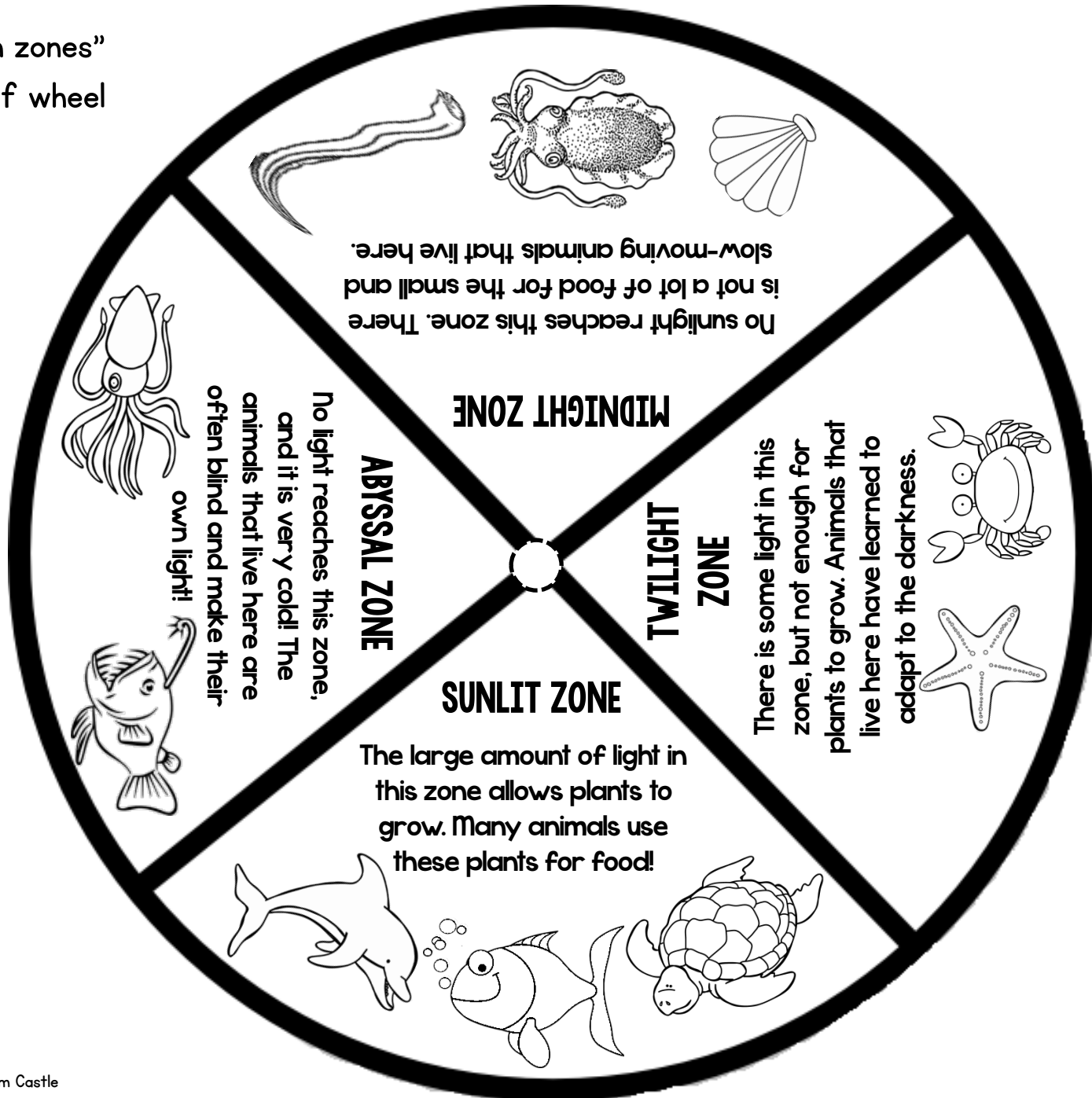
# Ocean Zones

Colored By:





“ocean zones”  
back of wheel



# OCEAN ZONES

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Can you draw an animal that lives in each ocean zone?

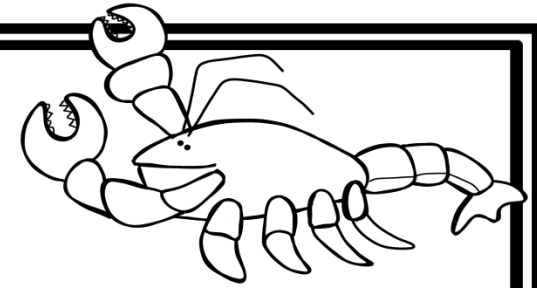
sunlit zone

twilight zone

midnight zone

abyssal zone

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Making Words: *Ocean Life*

Directions: Cut out the letters that make up the words "OCEAN LIFE". Then, use them to make your own words.

1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

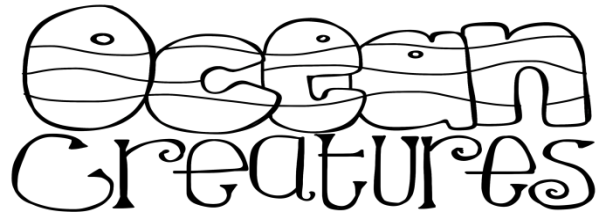
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o c e a n l i f e

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**KWL** Chart for: \_\_\_\_\_



Directions: Fill out the KWL chart for your ocean animal.

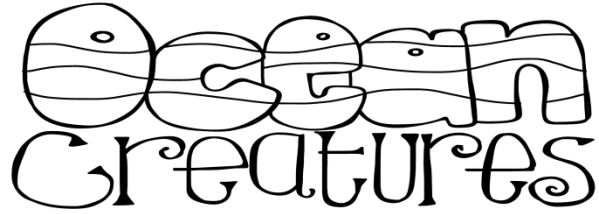
**What I KNOW**

**What I WONDER**

**What I LEARNED**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**My Ocean Animal:**  
\_\_\_\_\_



Directions: Fill out the CAN, HAVE, ARE chart for your ocean animal.

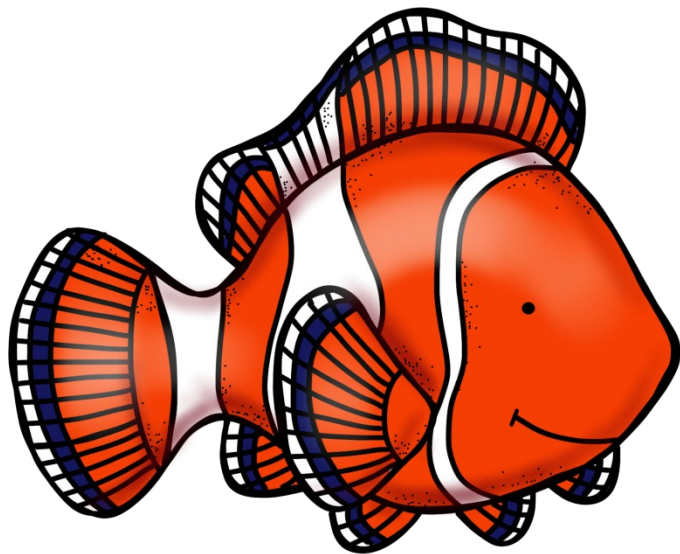
**CAN**

**HAVE**

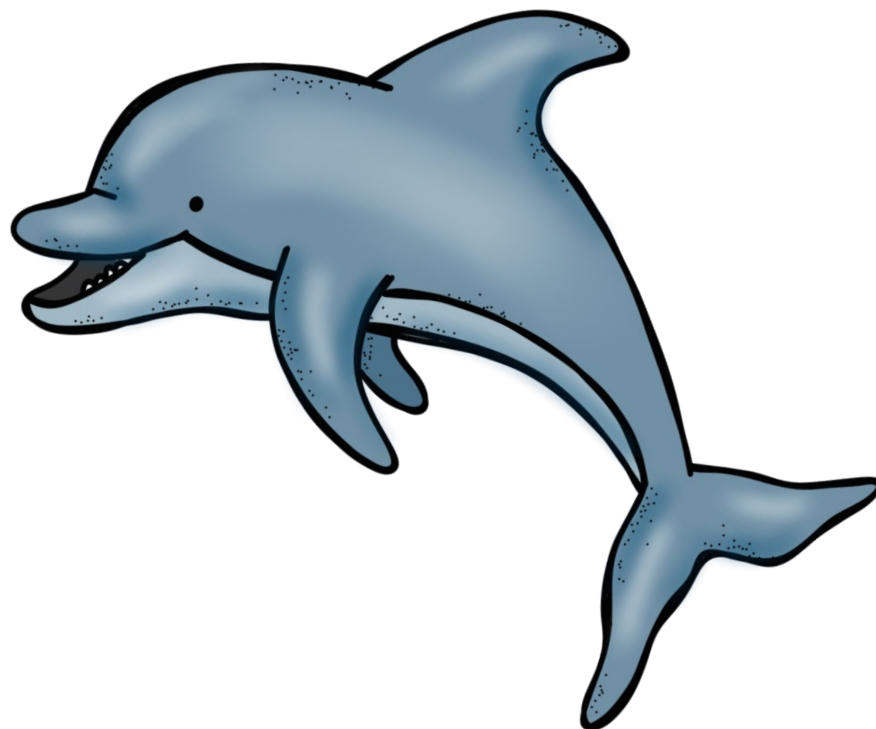
**ARE**

# Fish & Dolphin: A Venn Diagram Activity!

Directions: Cut out and display these cards. Discuss how the fish and dolphin are alike and different. Have students fill in their Venn diagram on page 23.



**FISH**



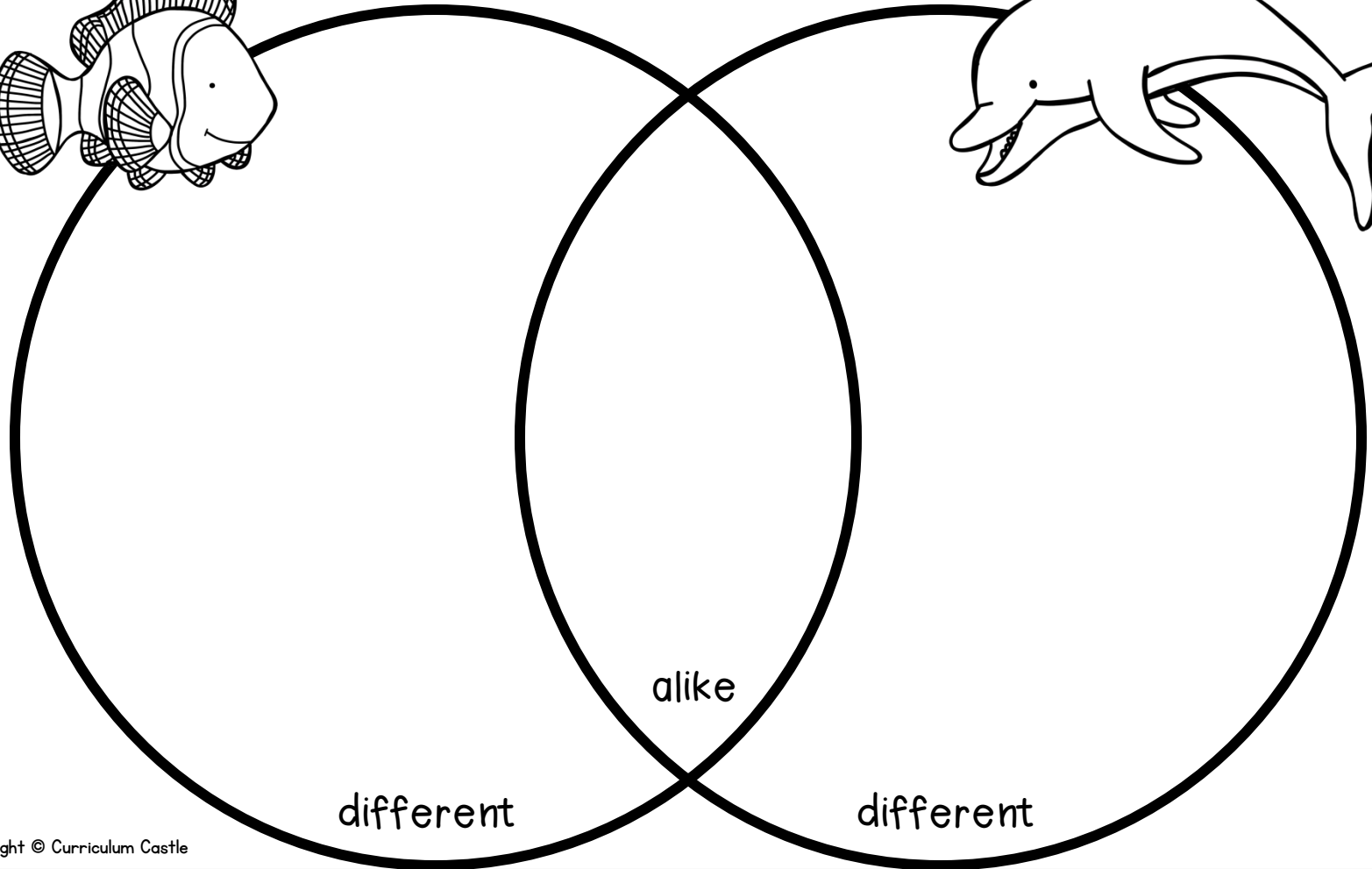
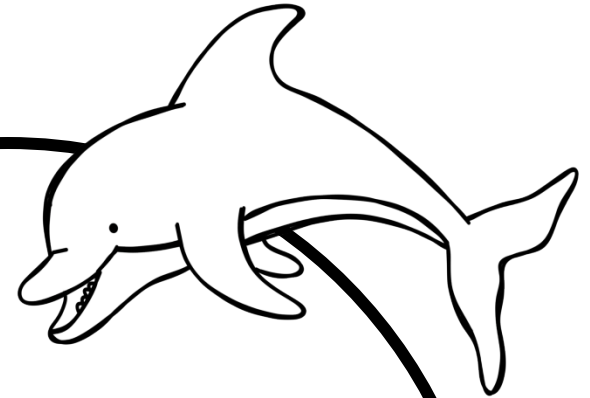
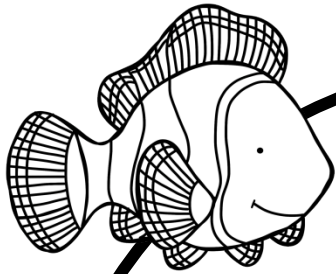
**DOLPHIN**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Fill out the diagram with words to describe how the fish and dolphin are different and alike.

# Fish & Dolphin:

## A Venn Diagram Activity

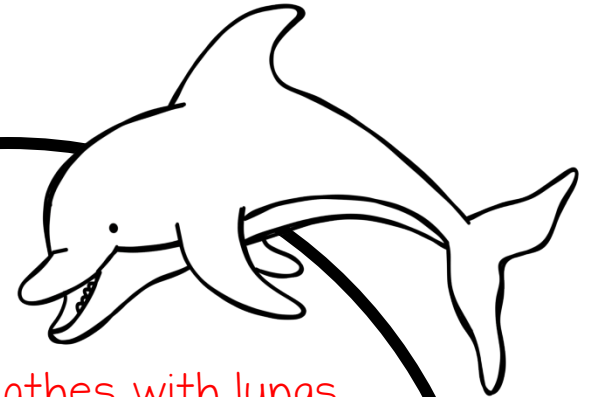
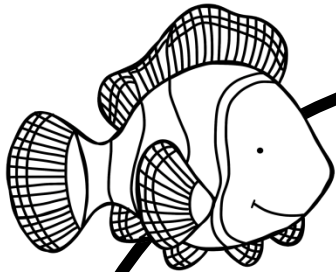


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Fill out the diagram with words to describe how the fish and dolphin are different and alike.

# Fish & Dolphin:

## A Venn Diagram Activity



breathes with gills

has scales

cold blooded

moves tail side to side

lays eggs

different

can swim

live in water

have fins

have backbone

have heart

alike

breathes with lungs

are mammals

warm blooded

moves tail up and down

has live birth

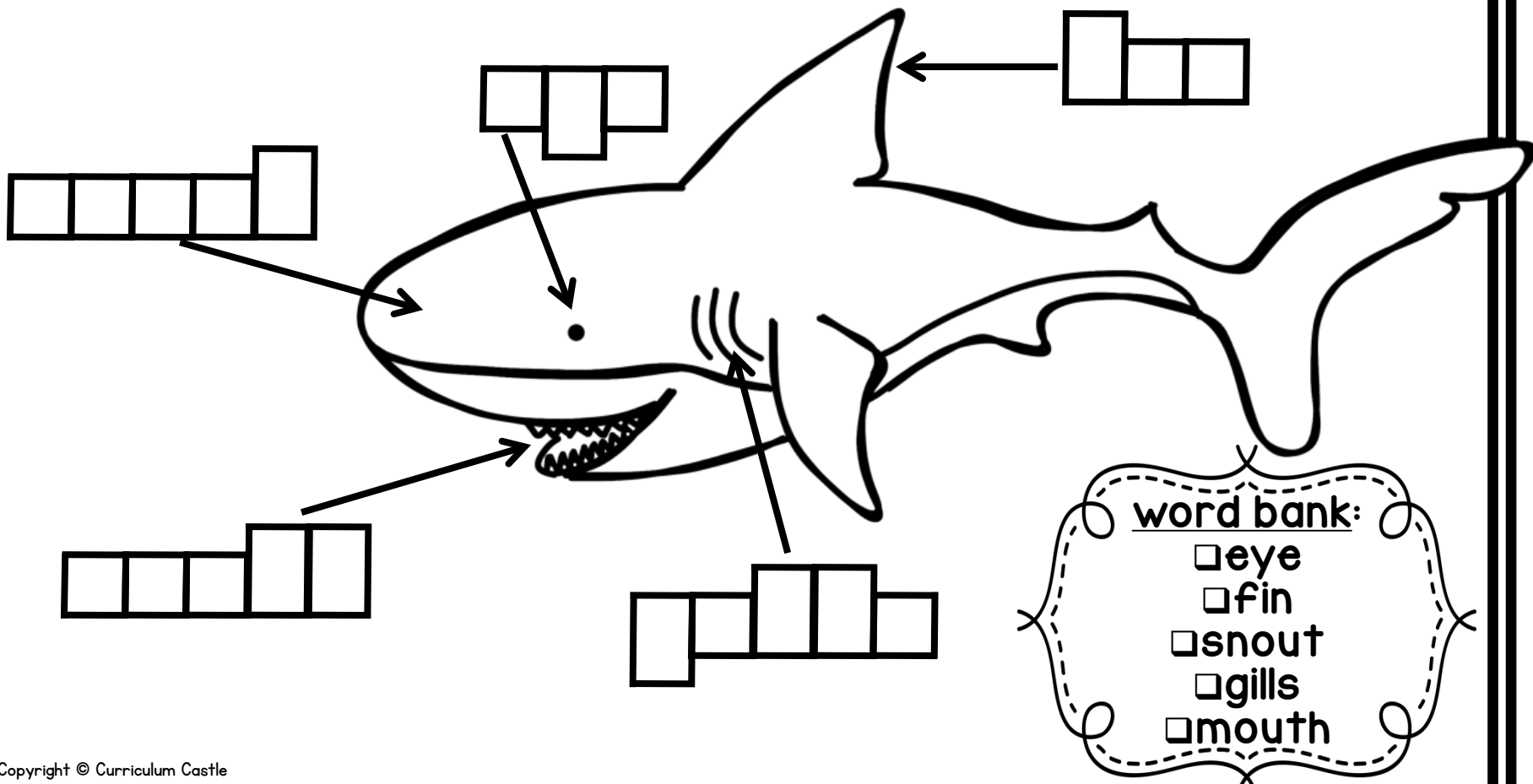
different



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Use the word bank to label each part of the shark.

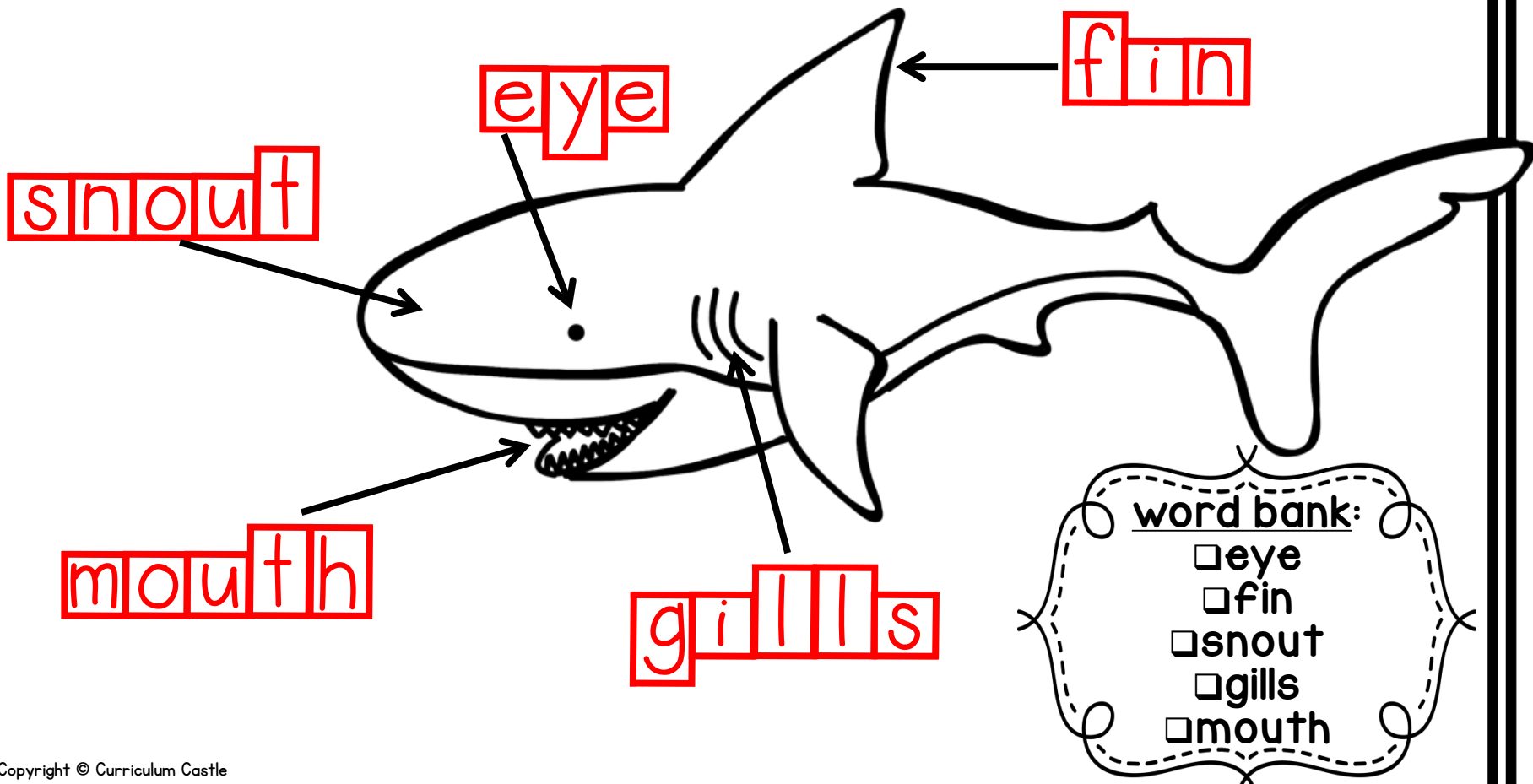
# Let's Label: Parts of a Shark

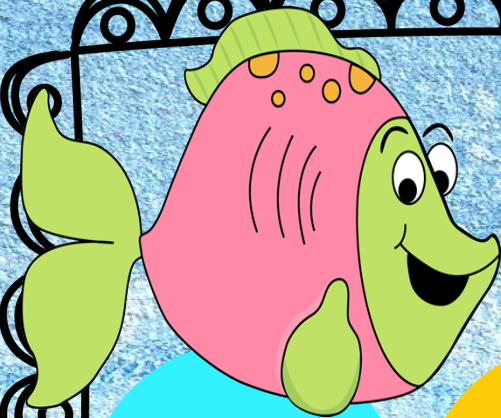


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Use the word bank to label each part of the shark.

# Let's Label: Parts of a Shark





# Fishin' for Numbers:

## Greater or Less Than Math Center!



### Directions:

1. Cut out all number cards on pages 28-30 and place them in a bowl or container. Also, cut out the "greater and less than cards" on page 31 and place them in a pile near the bowl of cards.
2. Students will draw two number cards, and take a greater than card and a less than card.
2. They will compare the numbers to make a number sentence. For example  $23 > 12$ .
3. Finally, students will record their number sentence by writing it on their record sheet "Fishin' for Numbers" on page 32.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Fishin' for Numbers

Greater Than or Less Than

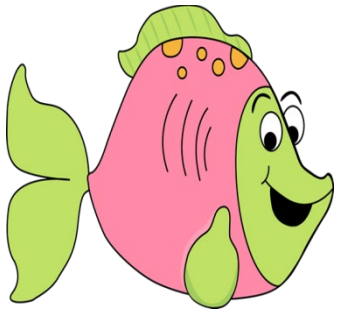
11	<	35	___	○	___	___	○	___
___	○	___	___	○	___	___	○	___
___	○	___	___	○	___	___	○	___
___	○	___	___	○	___	___	○	___
___	○	___	___	○	___	___	○	___

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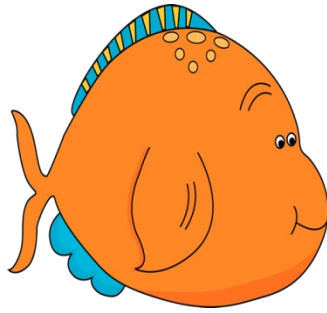
**CURRICULUM Castle**

# Number Cards

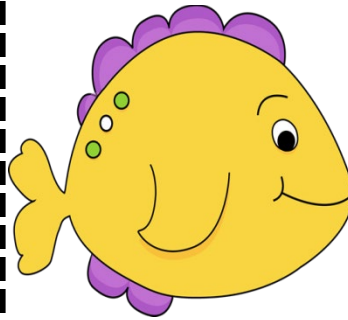
12



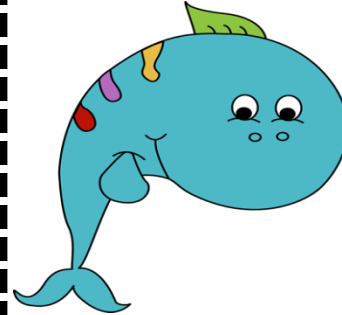
73



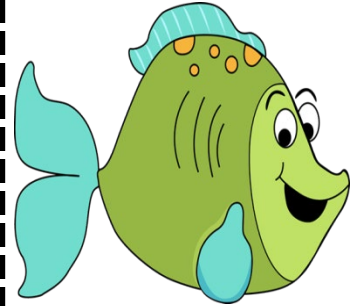
49



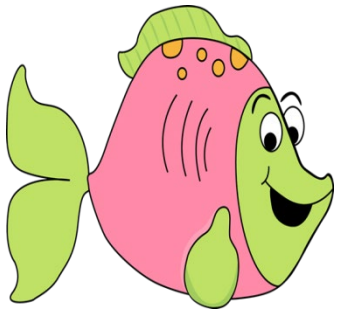
24



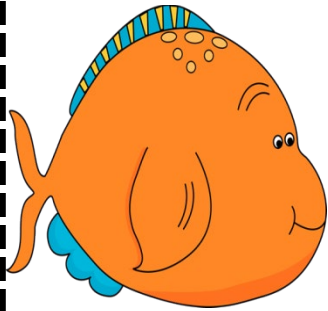
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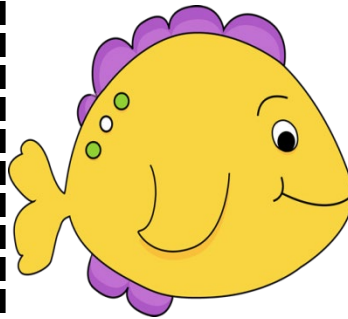
39



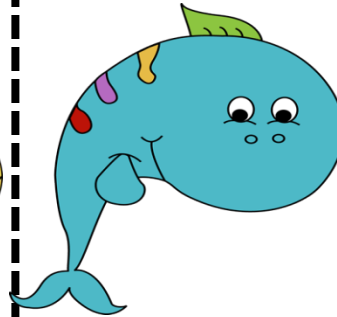
81



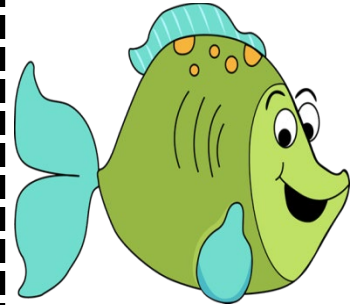
8



14

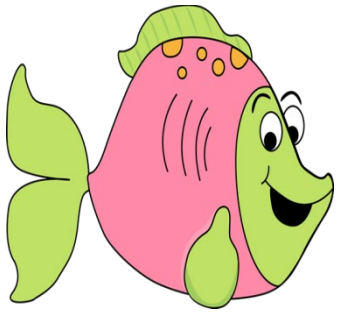


54

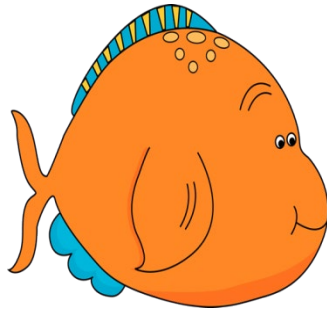


# Number Cards

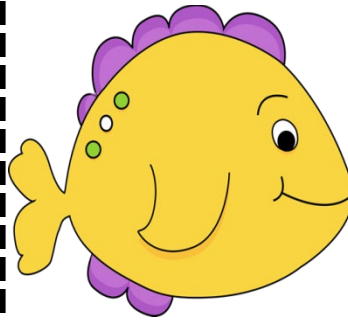
90



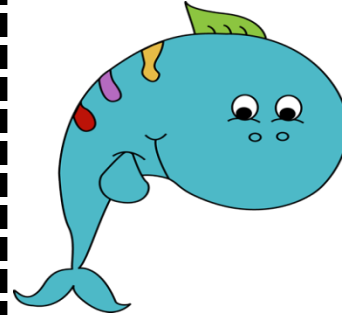
37



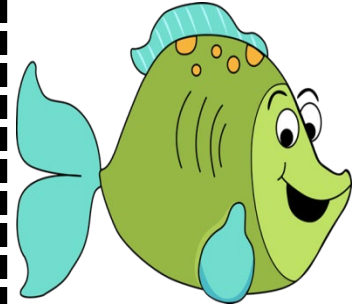
22



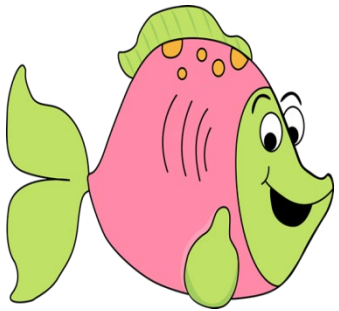
75



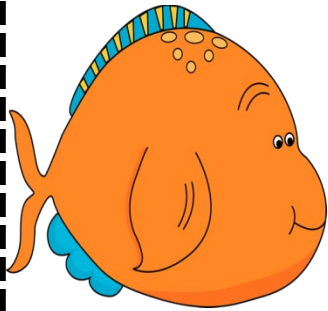
18



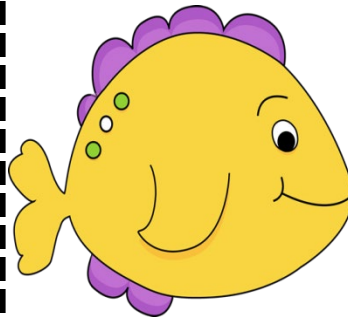
41



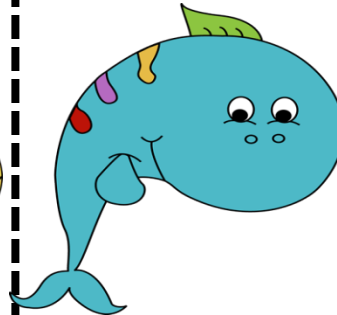
56



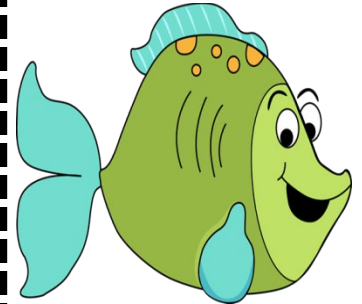
3



100

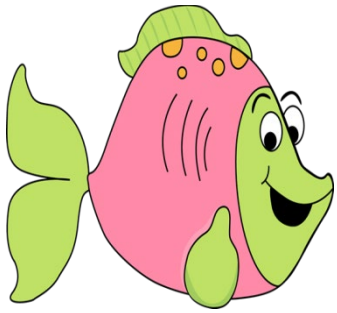


63

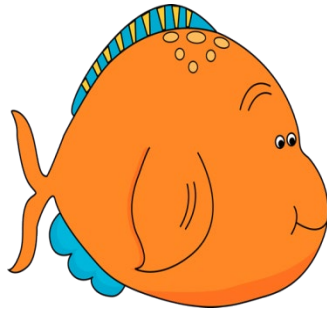


# Number Cards

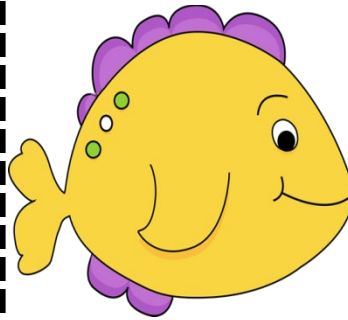
47



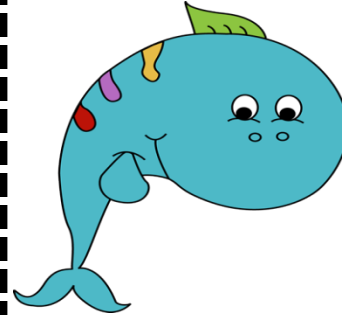
64



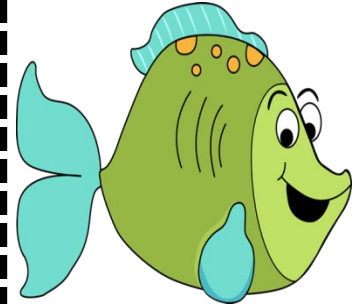
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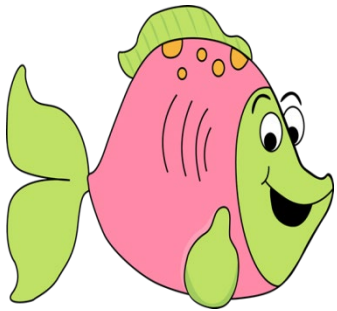
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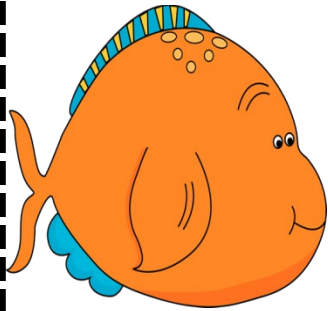
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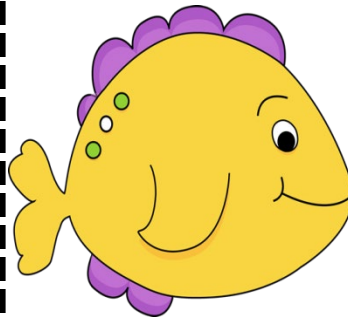
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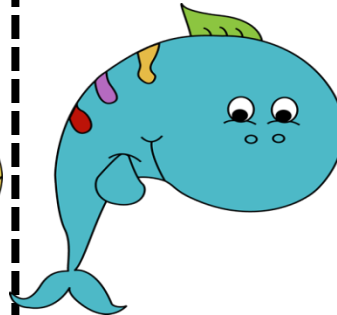
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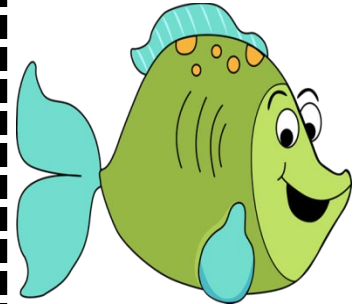
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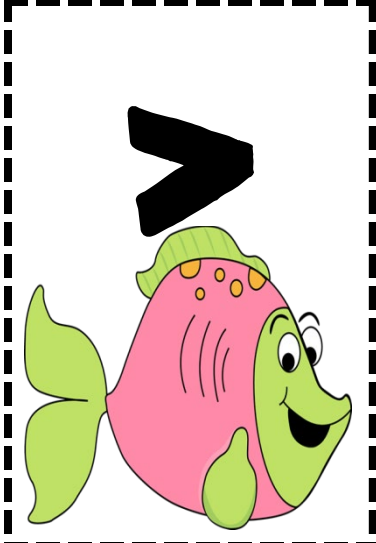
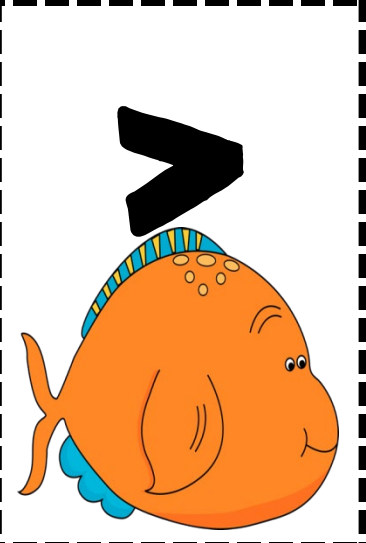
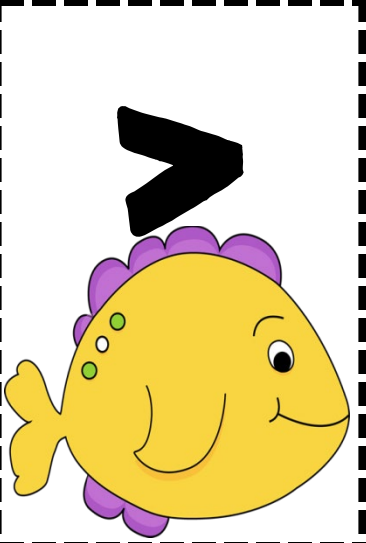
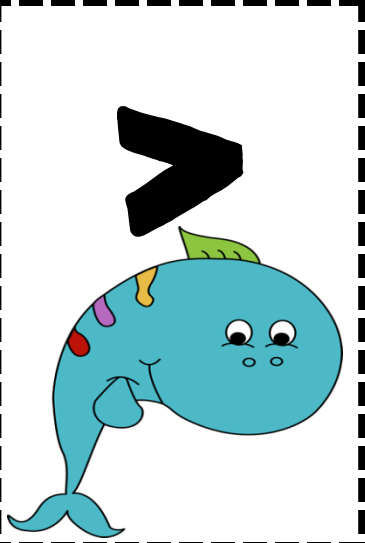
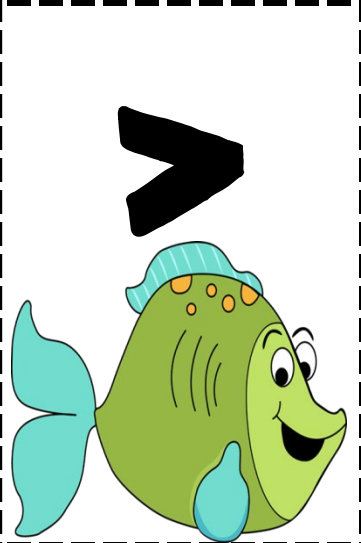
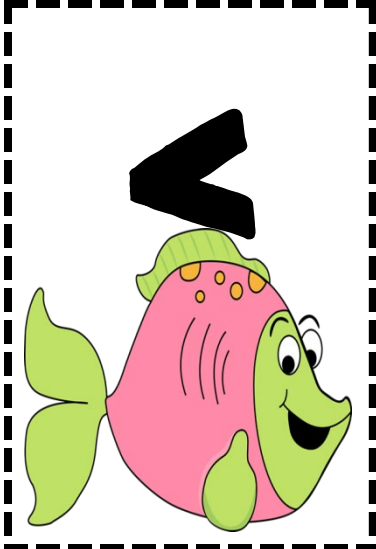
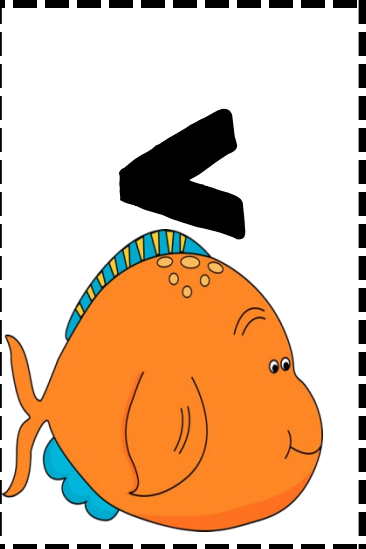
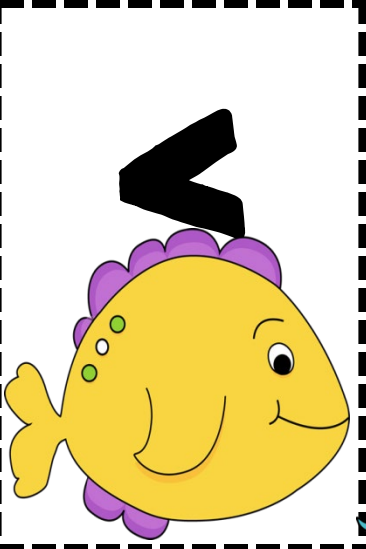
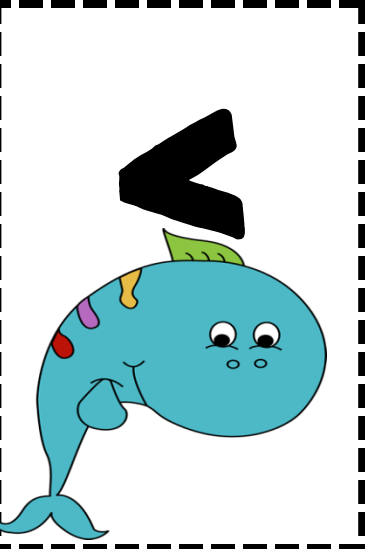
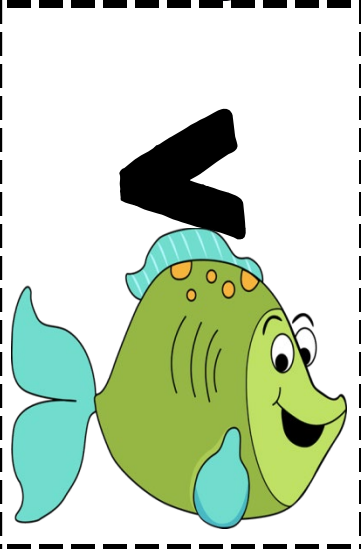
88



9



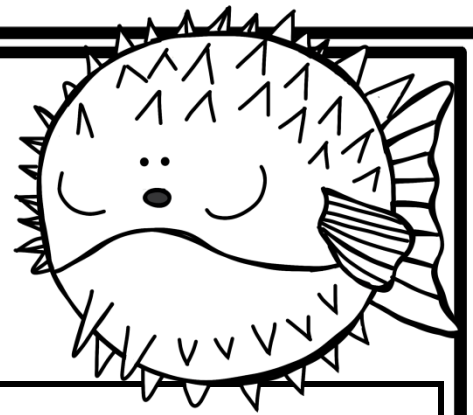
# Greater Than, Less Than Cards

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Fishin' for Numbers

Greater Than or Less Than



___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___
___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___
___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___
___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___
___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___	___ ○ ___

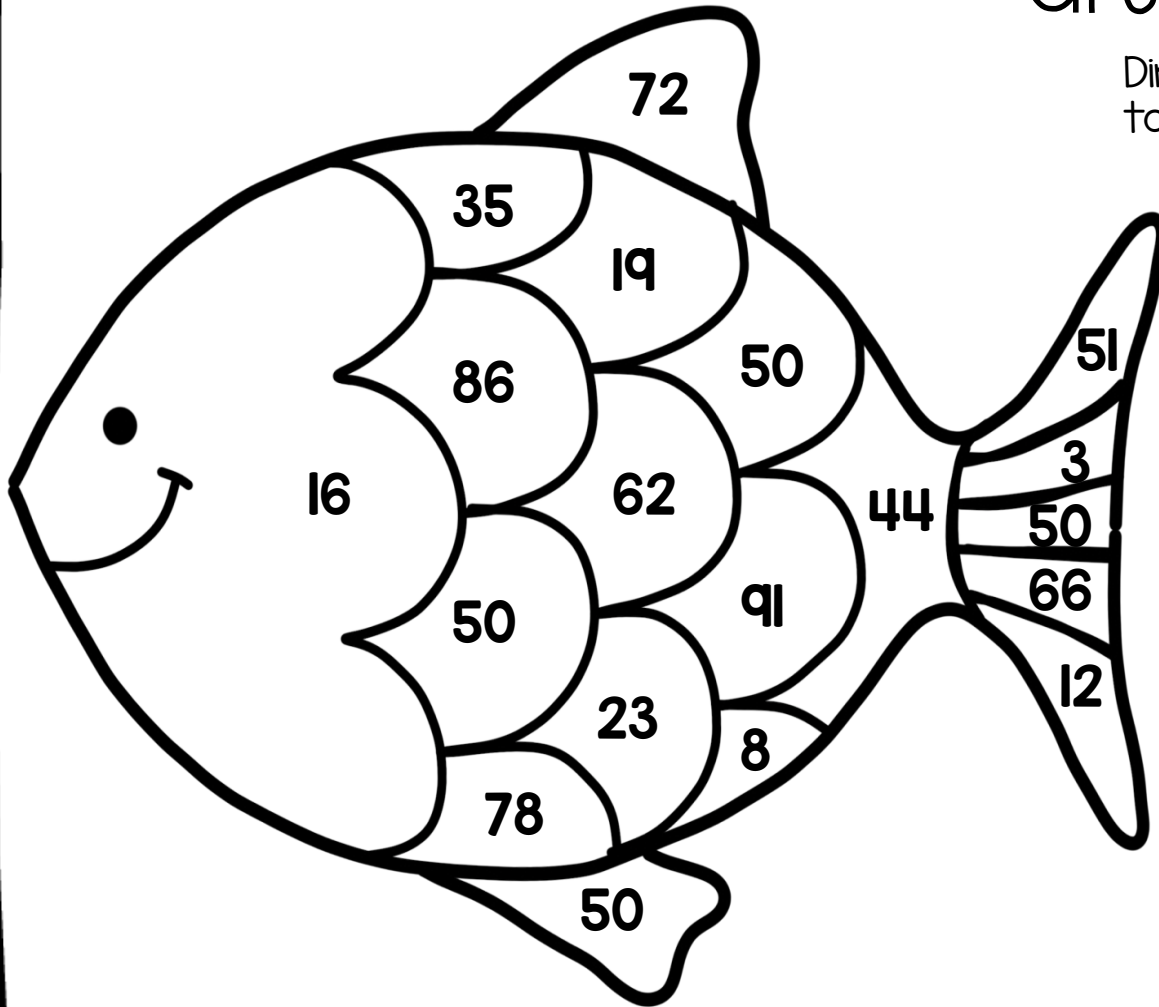


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Rainbow Fish:

## Greater or Less Than

Directions: Use the key below to color in the fish!



Less than 50 =



More than 50 =



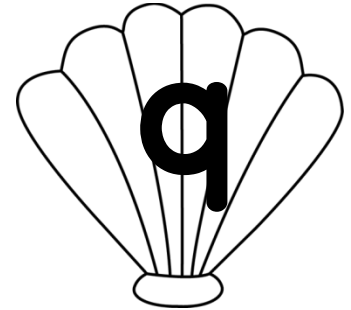
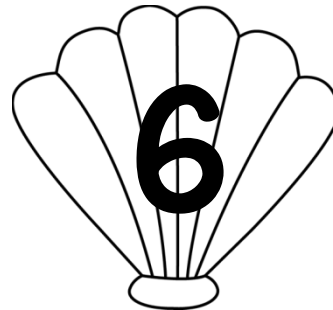
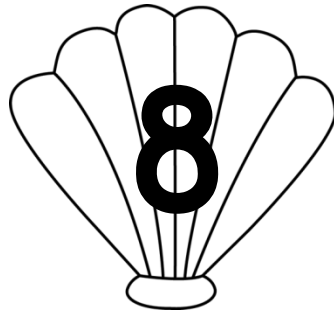
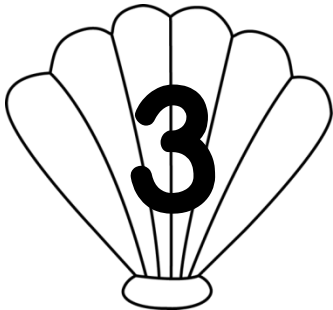
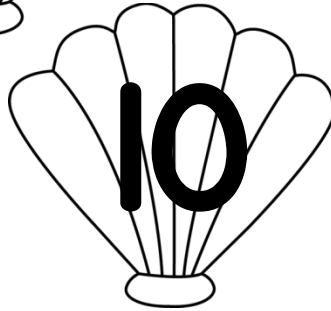
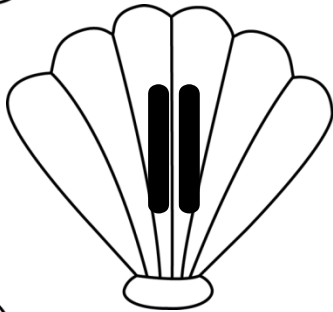
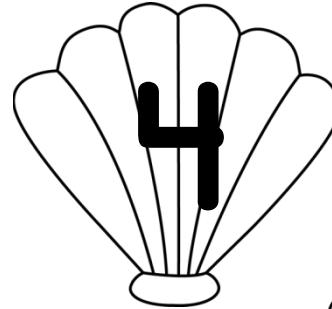
Equal to 50 =



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Seashell Roll and Color

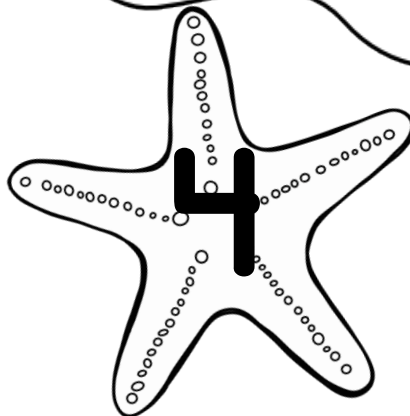
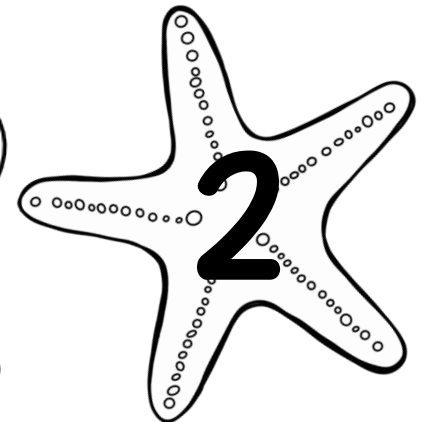
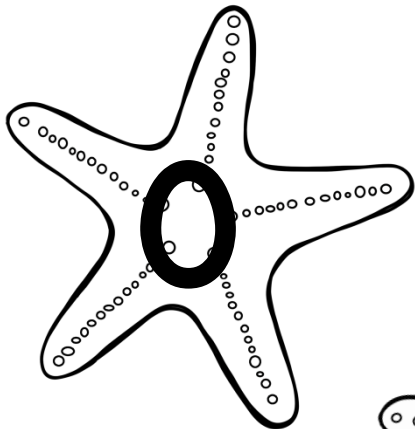
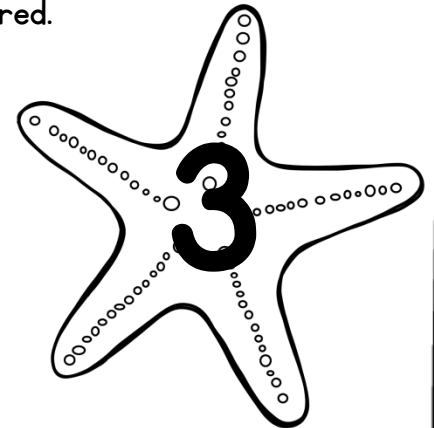
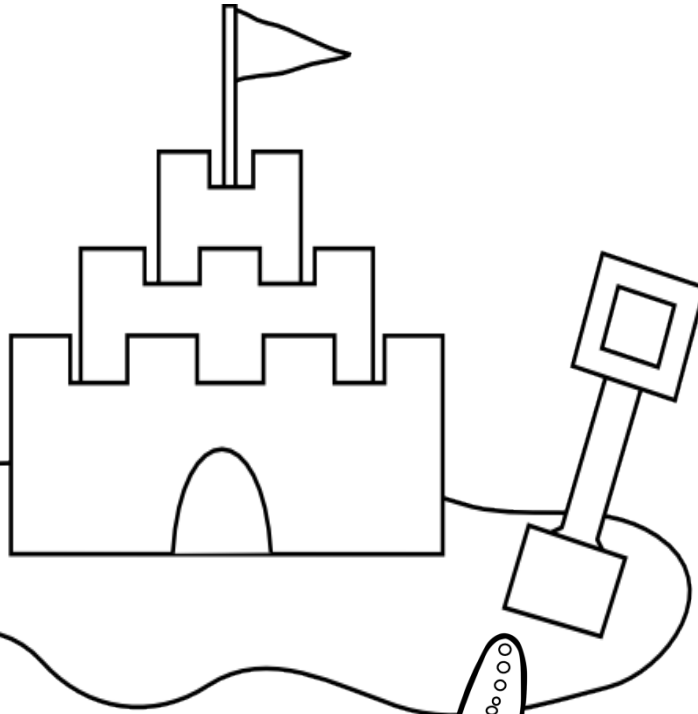
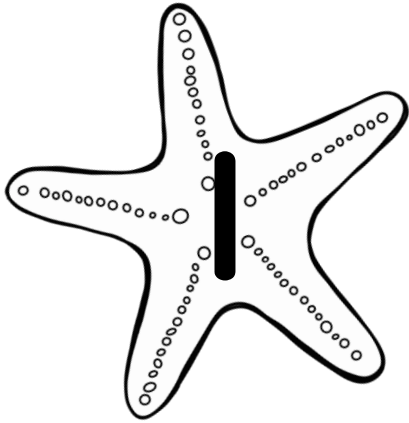
**Directions:** Roll a pair of dice. Add the numbers together. Color in the seashell with the correct answer. Keep rolling the dice until all the seashells are colored.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Starfish Roll and Color

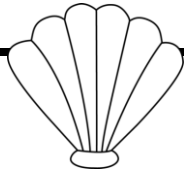
**Directions:** Roll a pair of dice. Subtract the higher number from the lower number. Color in the starfish with the correct answer. Keep rolling the dice until all the starfish are colored.



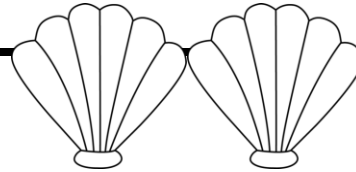
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Seashell Syllable Sort

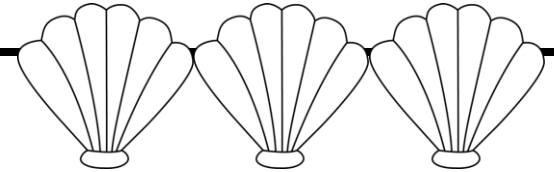
Directions: Clap the syllables as you say each word on the bottom of the page. Then, cut and paste the word onto the correct box.



**1 clap**



**2 claps**



**3 claps**

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dolphin

octopus

turtle

crab

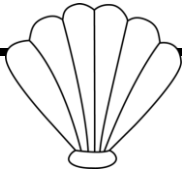
shark

jellyfish

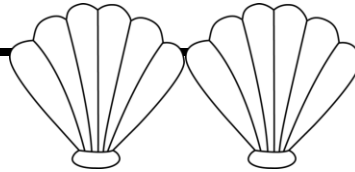
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Seashell Syllable Sort

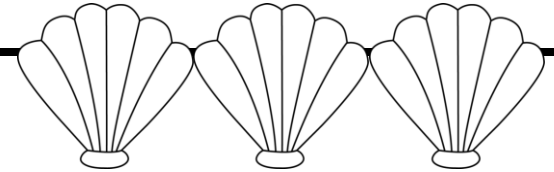
Directions: Clap the syllables as you say each word on the bottom of the page. Then, cut and paste the word onto the correct box.



1 clap



2 claps



3 claps

crab

dolphin

octopus

shark

turtle

jellyfish

Copyright © Curriculum Castle



dolphin

octopus

turtle

crab

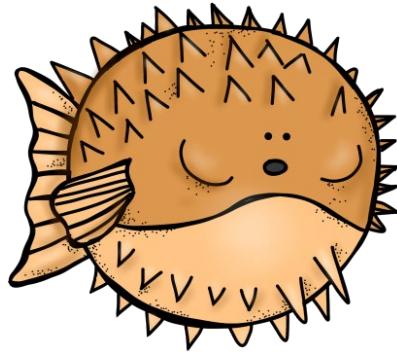
shark

jellyfish

# Saltwater Science!

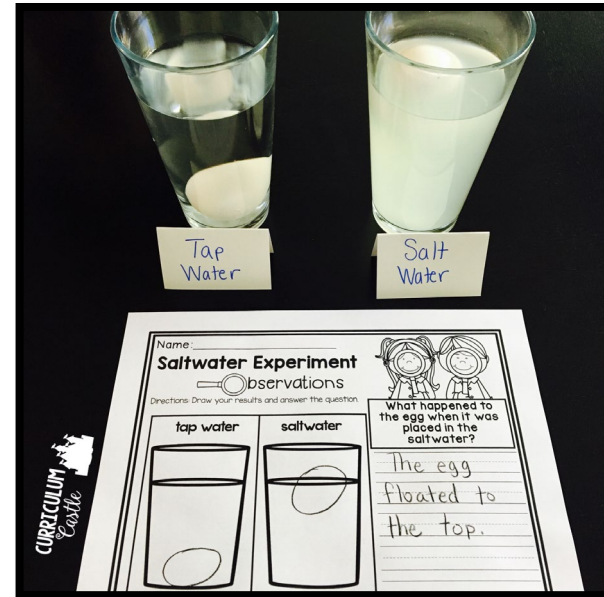
## Materials:

- (2) eggs
- salt
- water
- (2) tall drinking glasses



## Directions:

1. Pour cold water into the glasses until they are halfway full.
2. Gently drop an egg in one glass, and observe what happens. Does it sink or float?
3. In the other drinking glass, stir in about 6-8 tablespoons of salt to the water.
4. Gently lower the other egg into the saltwater solution and observe what happens.
5. Have students record the results of the experiment on page 39.



## What is Happening?

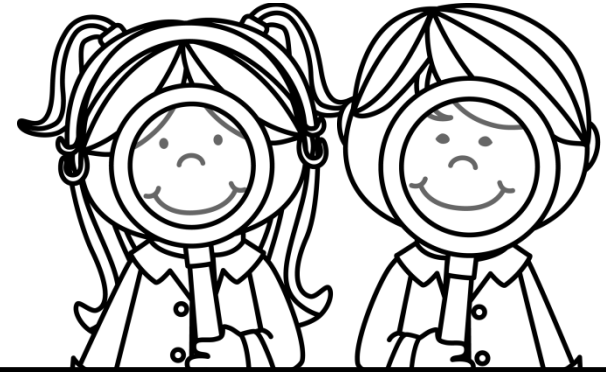
Because the density of the egg is higher than the density of tap water, it sinks. Adding salt to the water increases the density of the water. With enough added salt, the saltwater solution density is higher than the egg's, and the egg will then float.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Saltwater Experiment

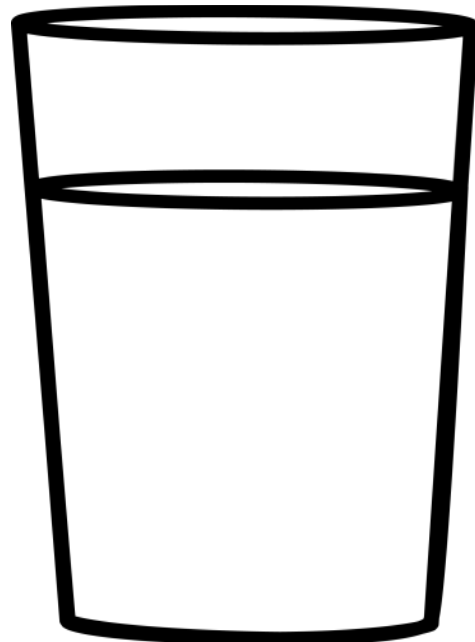


Directions: Draw your results and answer the question.

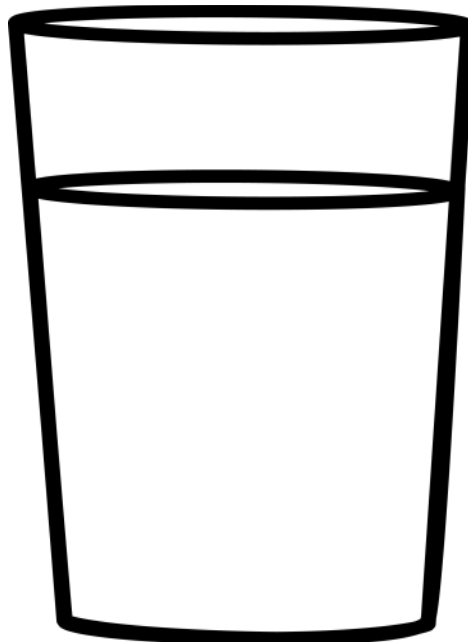


**What happened to the egg when it was placed in the saltwater?**

**tap water**



**saltwater**



Handwriting practice lines for the answer. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. There are four such sets of lines provided for writing.

# Submarine Window Craft

## Materials:

- (2) paper plates
- Scissors
- Glue
- watercolors and brushes
- Crayons/markers
- "submarine window" template on page 41
- paint (optional)
- Sand (optional)

## Directions:

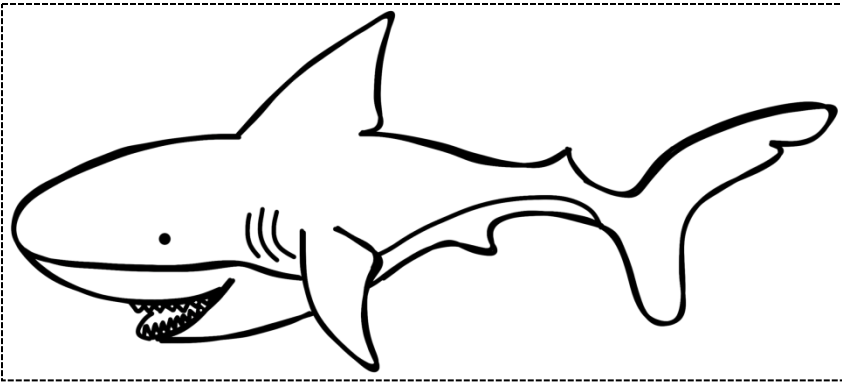
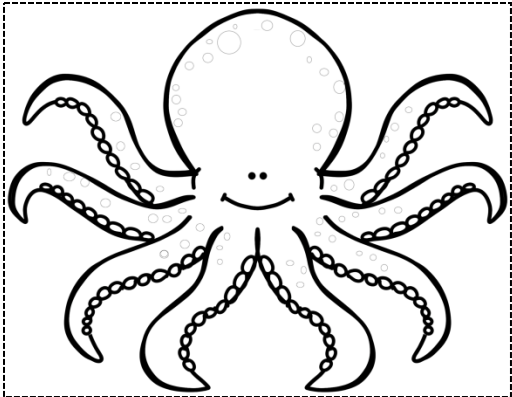
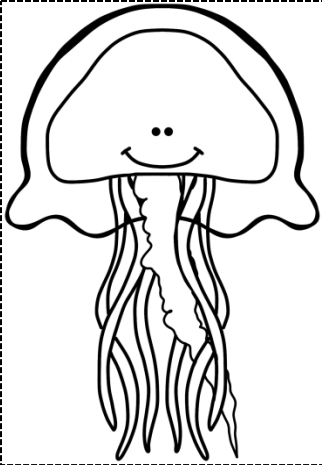
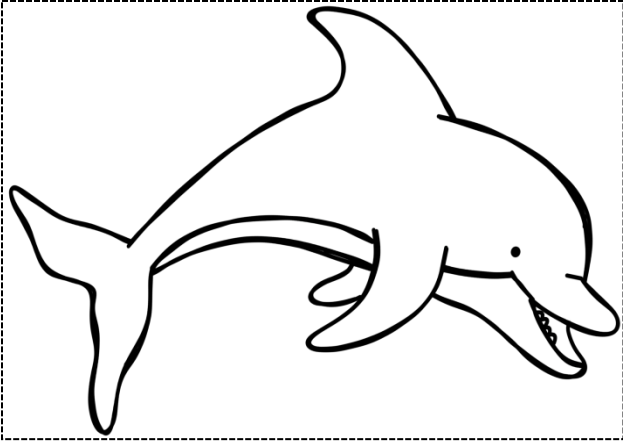
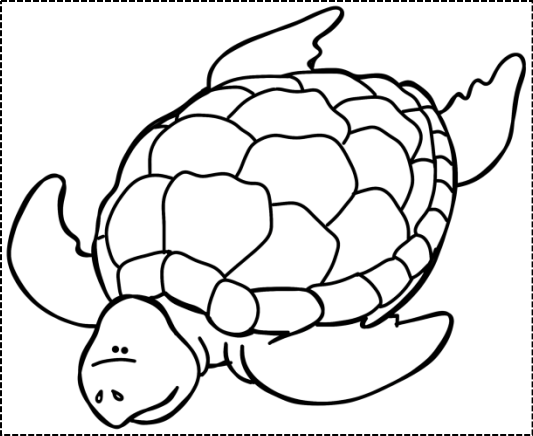
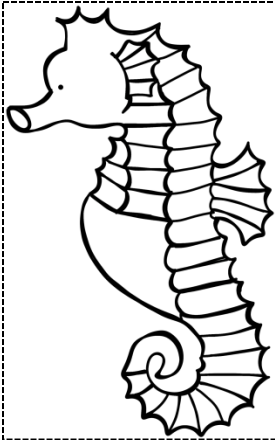
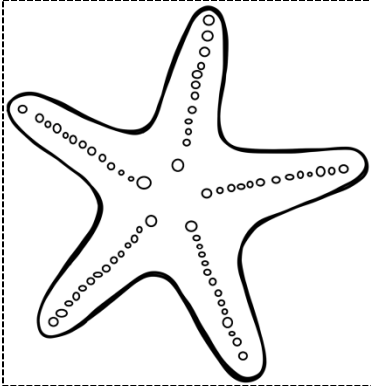
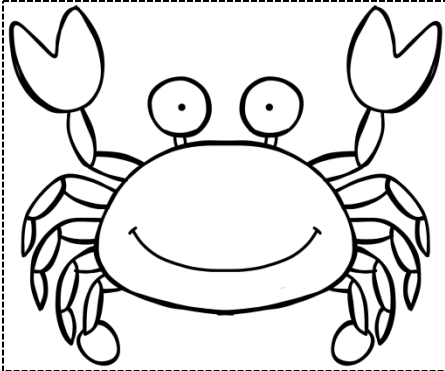
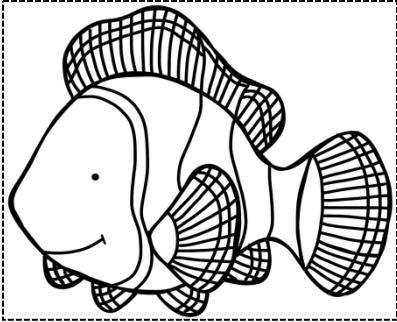
1. Using the template from page 41, have students color in the marine life that they would like to see from their submarine window. (Not all sea life needs to be used).
2. Using the front of one plate, students can use watercolor to create an ocean background.
3. Use glue and sand to create the effect of an ocean floor and let dry.
4. Cut a large hole in the center of the other paper plate to create a "window" for the submarine. (younger students will need assistance with this step).
5. Students can now cut out their chosen marine life and glue them onto the ocean background.
6. Glue the plate with the hole (facing down) on top of the ocean background. (Optional: paint the outer part of the window).



Extension: Use the writing paper on pages 42-43 to have students write their own creative story about what they would see if they traveled the ocean in a submarine! Makes a great classroom display!

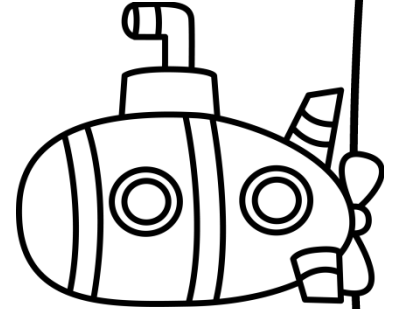
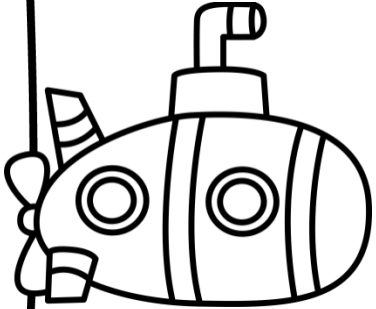


"submarine window" craft template



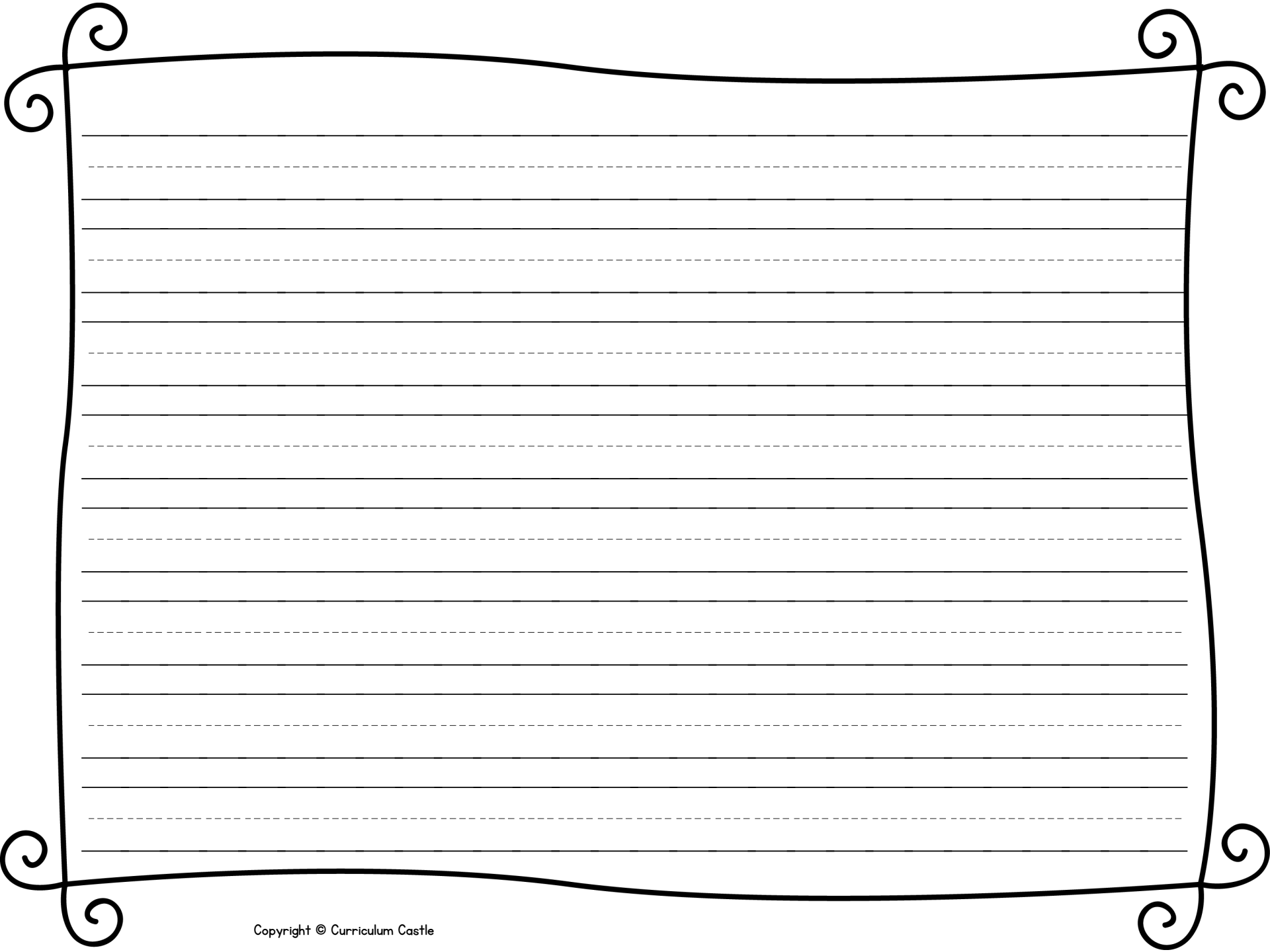
# In My Submarine...

Story by:



\_\_\_\_\_

Handwriting practice area consisting of ten sets of horizontal lines. Each set includes a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.



# Snack Idea

## Ingredients:

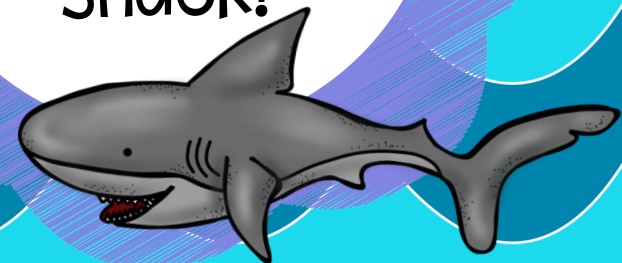
- vanilla pudding
- blue food coloring
- graham crackers
- fish or shark gummy candy

## Directions:

1. Crush graham crackers to make the "sand". We place them in a ziplock bag and use a rolling pin to crush them.
2. Add drops of blue food coloring to the vanilla pudding mix to create the "ocean water".
3. In a cup, create a layer of "sand" at the bottom and layer of "water" on top.
4. Top it off with the gummy fish or sharks and ENJOY!

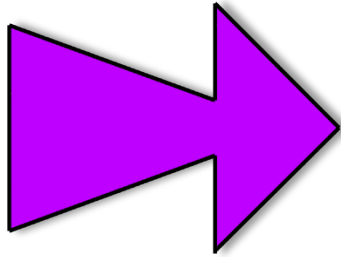


MAKES A  
great end  
of the Unit  
celebration  
snack!

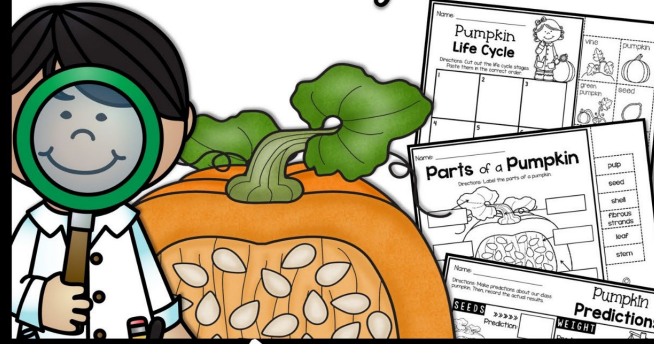


You may also enjoy...

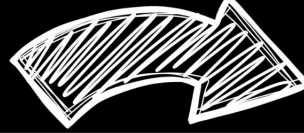
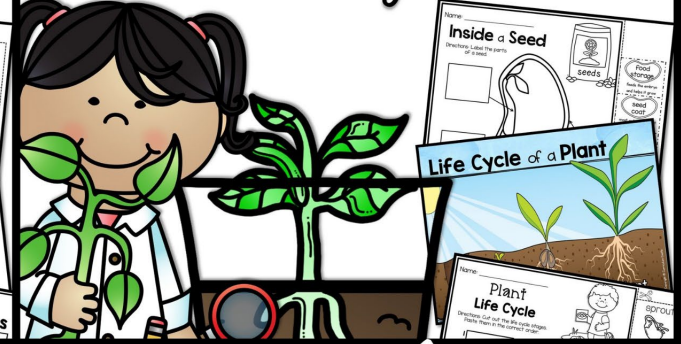
Click here for a closer look!



# PUMPKIN Investigation



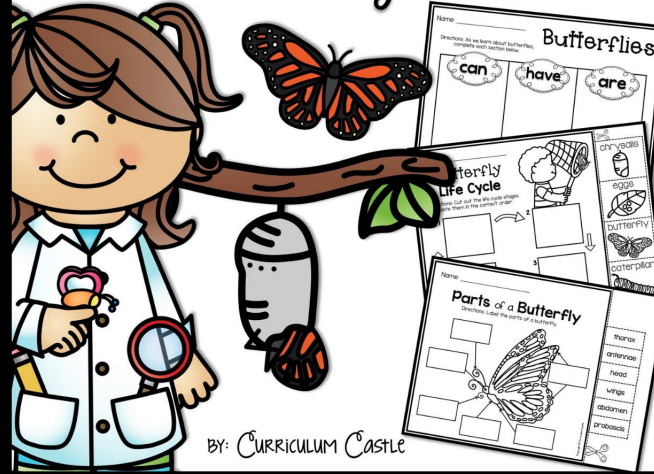
# PLANT Investigation



# BUNDLE

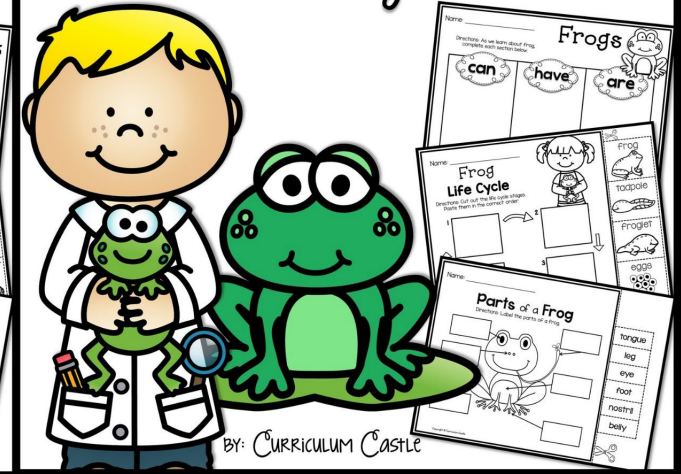


# BUTTERFLY Investigation



By: CURRICULUM Castle

# FROG Investigation



By: CURRICULUM Castle

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