

MERMAID CREW – Weekly Lesson Structure

Ages: 6–12
Duration: 45 minutes
Meets once/week for 6 weeks
Goals:

Dolphin kick mastery
Hand sculling + directional control
Breath control + dives
Vertical kicks + core strength
Imaginative play + themed games
Mermaid teamwork + confidence



LESSON TOOL KIT

Welcome + Mermaid Activation

- Mermaid roll call (each student picks a mermaid name)
- Dryland demo: swing leg dolphin kick + tip tails (in air)
- Set the theme: "Today we're training in the Moonlight Lagoon" or "Exploring the Treasure Reef"

Warm-Up + Core Activation (No Fins Yet)

- Sit on noodle, swing legs in dolphin kick rhythm ("swing like a seahorse")
- Lay on back, arms extended: dolphin kicks with noodle under head (core tight!)
- Add belly stone challenge: small toy or ball balanced while kicking
- Game: "Don't Drop the Coral!" keep the belly toy on while kicking across the pool

Tip Tail Time (Fins On)

- Point and flex feet in water, then in air (cue: "tip your tail!")
- Do it seated, prone, and upside down (on back)
- Mix with counting game: "How many tips in 30 seconds?"

Mermaid Kick + Scull Drills

- Full dolphin kick across the pool with fins (no arms)
- Add ball/jewel out front and prone "glide + kick" (like water polo drills)
- Sculling in front (palms sweep out/in)
- Sculling to the sides (pretend to "paint the water" or "sweep seaweed")





Mermaid Dives + Direction Control

- Dolphin dives: surface to bottom, push off + glide (can rename "Moonlight Dips" or "Treasure Drops")
- Add a prop dive: plastic jewels, rings, or "glowing shells" to collect
- Challenge: collect a ring, return it to a floating tray (teamwork)

Seahorse School (Vertical Core)

- Practice vertical body position with light noodle support if needed
- Flutter arms in scull + tiny dolphin kicks
- Group challenge: who can stay "standing like a seahorse" the longest?

Closing + Mermaid Affirmation

- Circle time in the pool:
- "Today I swam strong, I kicked with grace, and I sparkled in my space."
- Optional: give "Pearl of the Day" to a student who showed kindness, strength, or bravery

Weekly Themes to Keep It Fresh:

- Moonlight Lagoon (gliding + jewel games)
- Coral Kingdom (sculling + treasure collect)
- Volcano Cove (core power, seahorse drills)
- Frozen Reef (balance + stillness challenges)
- Whirlpool Woods (direction control + fast movement)
- Rainbow Shells (teamwork + memory games using colored rings)