



World Animal Collection – Ocean

Here's What You Get!

- 11 Ocean Animals (2 killer whales, 2 blue whales, 2 dolphins, 1 sperm whale, 1 humpback whale, 1 whale shark, 1 hammerhead shark, 1 shark)
- 10 Aquatic Plants
- 2 Colorful Corals
- 10 Rocks
- Teacher's Activity Guide

Introduction

Pretend and dramatic play build skills in many essential developmental areas. Through play, children actively experiment with social and emotional roles, build self-esteem, nurture their imaginations, and develop language skills. Playing with realistic molded animals encourages children to talk, interact, cooperate, and create stories as they expand their understanding of the world.

The molded animals and accessories are rich with realistic detail that invite imaginative play. The World Animal Collection – Ocean set addresses these Head Start Learning Outcomes and ECERS Guidelines:

Head Start Learning Objectives

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

Goal P-ATL 11: Child shows interest in and curiosity about the world around them.

Goal P-ATL 13: Child uses imagination in play and interactions with others.

COGNITION

Goal IT-C 13: Child uses pretend play to increase understanding of culture, environment, and experiences.

ECERS - Nature/Science

Goal 25.5.1: Nature/science activities (realistic toy animals)

Suggested Activities

Whales, Dolphins, and Sharks

The focus on whales and sharks in this set may give children a deeper understanding of these fascinating ocean animals. When you introduce the World Animal Collection Ocean set to the children, encourage the children to look closely at each animal.

Does it have a small spot or hole at the top of its head? It's a whale or dolphin! Whales and dolphins breathe air with the blowhole, just like we breathe air with our nose. Whales and dolphins can swim and dive in the water, but they cannot breathe underwater. They must come up for air. Whales and dolphins are mammals, just like us.

Does it have small slits on the sides? It's a shark! Sharks and other fish breathe with gills. The small slits cover the shark's gills. The gills take oxygen out of the water for the shark to breathe. A shark cannot breathe if it is out of water. Sharks are fish.

World Animal Collection – Ocean (continued)**Suggested Activities** (continued)**Food and Protection**

Encourage the children to examine the rocks, plants, and colorful corals. These provide food and protection for many ocean animals. Invite the children to arrange the rocks, plants, and corals in such a way so that a smaller ocean animal is hidden. It will be safe from predators like a hungry shark or killer whale!

There's More in the Sea!

Look online, in magazines, or other printed material for pictures of other ocean animals such as various fish, eels, turtles, crabs, lobsters, octopuses, seahorses, jellyfish, seals, otters, clams, snails – a lot of animals live in the ocean! Compare their body shapes and colors. Encourage the children to make drawings or dough models of different ocean animals to enhance their World Animal Ocean dramatic play experience.



#OCEANBUCK