AUSSIE BIBLE MATES · BIBLE MATES EXPLORERS · AUSTRALIAN EDITION

A CHRISTIAN OCEAN UNIT STUDY

Dive Deep, MATES!

"How many are Your works, O LORD!" Psalm 104:24

Parent Guide



Whole family · ages 5–13

8 lessons

3 levels

Read along with Drew

Lesson 1



DIVE 1 · WHO LIVES IN THE SEA?

Washed Up!

📖 Story time

The tide had gone out in the night, and the beach was full of surprises. Beside a wooden crate on the wet sand, the Mates crouched down to look.

“A shell!” said Little Mate, turning it over. “Someone used to live in here.”

Ruby lifted a long, slippery strand of kelp. “This was living too. It grows in the sea like a forest.”

A little red crab scuttled sideways past Pip’s nose. Pip jumped, then laughed.

“Crabs have no backbone,” said Big Mate. “Fish have fins and gills. Whales breathe air, like us.”

Tilly found a bottle lid half buried in the sand. “And this one never lived at all. People made it.”

Little Mate counted on his fingers: living, once living, made by people. He looked out at the waves. “God filled the whole sea with creatures,” he said. “And He saw that it was good.”

🤔 BIG QUESTION

Who lives in the sea, and how can we sort them?

QR

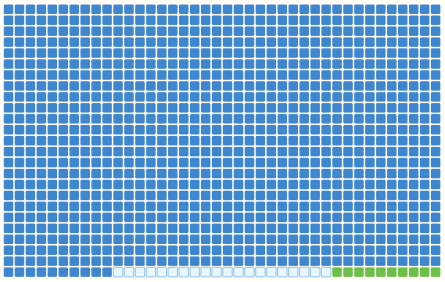
🎧 **Listen with Drew**
Scan to hear this story read aloud.

“So God created the great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters teemed according to their kinds… And God saw that it was good.” **Genesis 1:21 (BSB)**

🌊 Real ocean!

One great ocean, full of living things, sorted by their features.

If all Earth's water were 1000 cups



about 970: ocean
about 20: ice
less than 10: fresh

Earth from space



About 71% of the surface is ocean

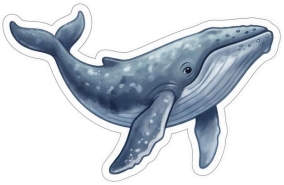
ONE GLOBAL OCEAN
with five named parts

FISH
breathe with gills, swim with fins, have a backbone

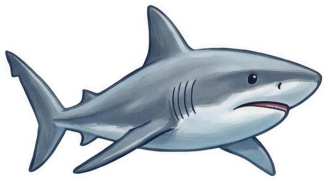
MAMMALS
breathe air and feed their babies milk

NO BACKBONE
octopuses, crabs, sea stars, sea jellies, corals

THINGS YOU MIGHT SEE



A humpback whale is a mammal



A shark is a fish, with a skeleton of cartilage



Say “sea star”: it isn't a fish

71% of Earth's surface is covered by the ocean.

97% of Earth's water is in the ocean. About 2% is frozen in ice.

5 parts Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern and Arctic.

Genesis 1:21 “God created the great sea creatures and every living thing that moves.”

Try it! The Washed-Up Crate

1. Put a little sand in a box with a shell, a clean sponge, a toy fish and a bottle lid.
2. Lift things out one at a time.
3. Sort them: living, once living, or never living?
4. Start a Creature Count on the fridge.

Simplified drawing. Numbers are rounded.



Sort the Sea

Little Mates · ages 5–7

Name: _____ Date: _____

WORDS TO KNOW ocean · shell · beach

1 Trace the words.

sea fish shell

2 Living, once living or made by people? Draw a line.







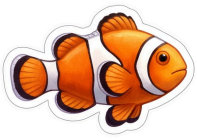
- living
- once living
- made by people

toy fish

3 Circle the animals with a shell.



crab



clownfish



turtle



sea jelly



sea snail