

Seashore explorers: lesson 2 of 2

The shore walk

Explore, count and record,
like a real scientist



Volunteers on the shore near MCP. Photo: MCP



Before we go

1. Check the tide time: we go around low tide.
2. Wear closed shoes, a hat and clothes that can get wet.
3. Bring water, your record sheet and a pencil.
4. Repeat the explorer's code together.
5. Know your group and your adult.

Remember

Never touch cone shells, stonefish, sea urchins or jellyfish.



Task 1: shore bingo

1. Walk slowly with your group.
2. When you spot something on your bingo card, tick it and sketch it in the box.
3. Point it out to your group, but don't pick it up.
4. Can you get a line? Can you get the whole card?



Task 2: count like a scientist

1. Lay a 1 metre square of string on the shore. This is your quadrat.
2. Count every animal you can see inside it, and write it down.
3. Do three quadrats: near the top of the beach, in the middle, and near the water.
4. Where did you find the most life? Why?



Task 3: look closely

1. Choose one animal or plant.
2. Sit quietly and watch it for three minutes.
3. Draw it as carefully as you can. Label its parts.
4. Write down one thing it did, and one question you have about it.



Back in class

1. Add your group's counts to the class chart.
2. Make a big class shore map and stick on your drawings.
3. Which part of the shore had the most life?
4. Write a thank-you note to the shore: what will you do to look after it?



No shore nearby?

Explore the school grounds instead. Look under stones, in leaf litter and around plants, using the same three tasks.

Or take a picture walk: use the photos and drawings from lesson 1 as your shore, and count what you can find.



Talk about it

What was the most surprising thing you found?

Did anyone follow the explorer's code perfectly? How?

What question would you like to answer on your next shore walk?

Well done, seashore explorers!



Photos and sources

Photos: volunteers on the shore by MCP. All illustrations drawn for this lesson by Marine Conservation Philippines.

Sources:

- Marine Conservation Philippines.

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