

Pre-K Ocean Voyage Independent Learning Stations

The following resource includes station activities to use during small group instruction. These activities can be done independently by Pre-K students with minimal assistance.

List of Stations:

- Ocean Research, page 2
- Deep-Sea Dramatic Play, page 5
- Ocean Shape Landscapes, page 20
- Create Your Own Ocean Animal, page 28
- Ocean Exploration, page 36
- Ocean Counting, page 39

In this resource, you will find:

Teacher Instructions: Includes a short description of each station, materials needed, how to set the station up, and alignment to OSSE DC Early Learning Standards.

Student Signs: Includes directions for students using “I Can” phrases and visuals. Print and post near the station to guide independent work.

Visuals: Includes any visuals or resources provided by the National Museum of Natural History to help your station come to life!

Independent Learning Station 1: Ocean Research

The following resources are included for this station:

- Teacher Instructions
- Student Sign

Ocean Research Station Teacher Instructions

At this learning station, students can learn more about the ocean by looking at photographs and reading books about the ocean, the beach, ocean animals, and more!

Materials:

- Ocean books from your public or school library
- Blankets, beach towels, and pillows
- Stuffed animals
- Photographs of ocean animals
- Magnifying glasses for close looking at photographs in books

Set Up:

Choose a corner of your classroom near bookcases to lay a blanket or beach towels out on the floor. If you do not have any bookcases, stand/prop the ocean books up on top of the blanket. Add pillows and stuffed ocean animals to make this space more inviting.



OSSE DC Early Learning Standards:

- Pre-K 1a. Demonstrates curiosity and eagerness to learn by showing interest in a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks
- Pre-K 9a. Understands that print has meaning and corresponds with spoken language; orients book correctly and turns pages

OCEAN RESEARCH STATION

I can read books.

I can look at books.

I can research ocean animals.

Independent Learning Station 2: Deep-Sea Dramatic Play

The following resources are included for this station:

- Teacher Instructions
 - Student Sign
- Camera Animal Cutouts
- Ocean Animal Cutouts

Deep Sea Dramatic Play Teacher Instructions

At this learning station, students can engage in imaginative play as they dress up as a scuba diver to explore what they see when they dive into the deep sea.

Materials:

- Blue bulletin board paper
- Ocean animals (attached)
- Scuba gear (goggles, snorkeling mask, flippers)- create your own goggles by following the directions on the next page
- Cameras and clipboards for recording observations- create your own underwater cameras by following directions on the next page

Set Up:

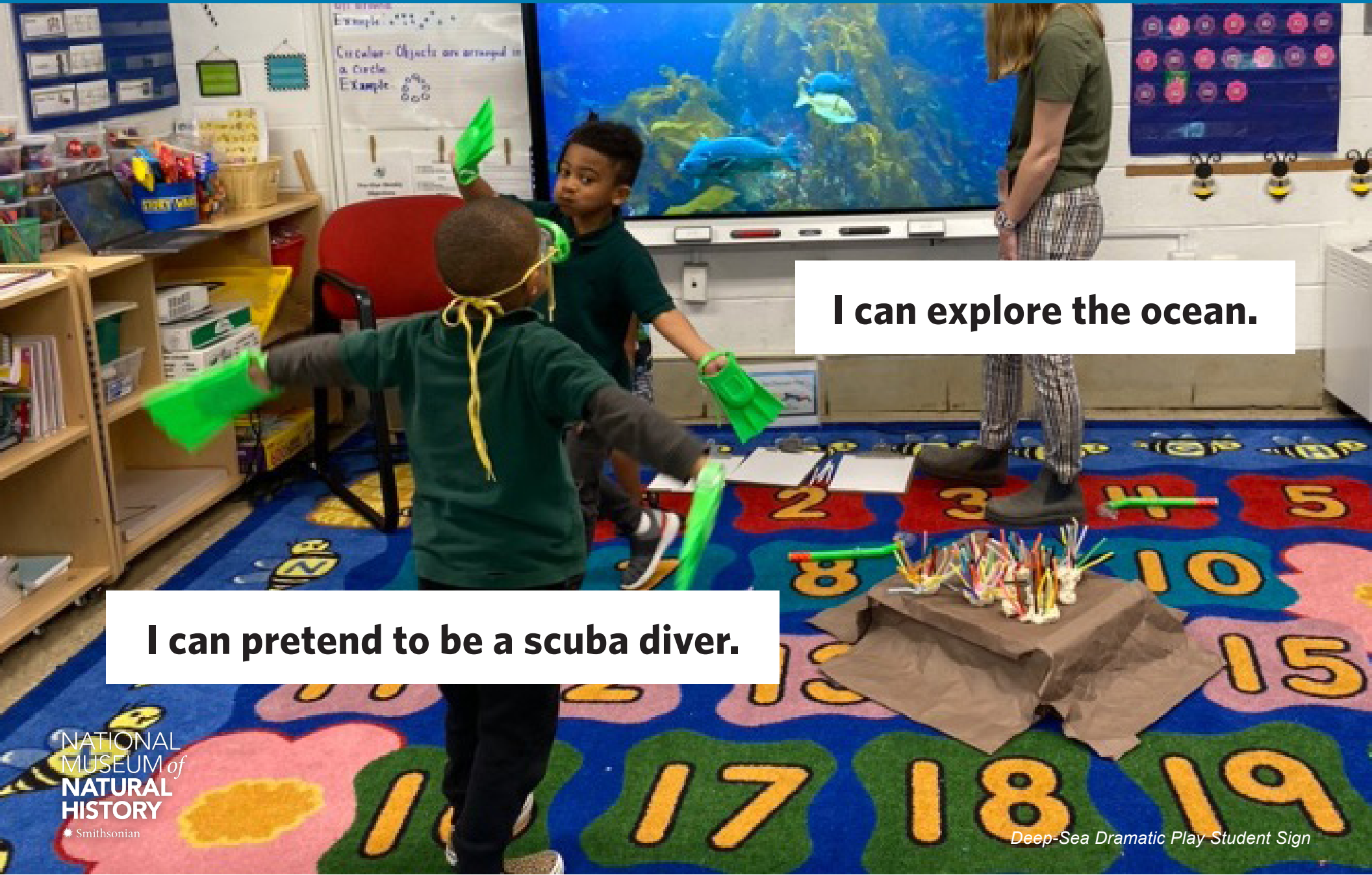
Use a wall of your room to transform your classroom into an underwater adventure! Tape blue bulletin board paper onto your wall, then add our collection of ocean animal photographs for your students to explore! If you have a projector, use an open ocean camera, such as <https://www.explore.org/livecams/oceans/utopia-village-reef-channel> to project live ocean scenes in your classroom.

OSSE DC Early Learning Standards:

- Preschool 27a. Explores real or fantasy scenarios through pretend play
- Preschool 27b. Uses imagination and creativity to express self through pretend play



DEEP-SEA DRAMATIC PLAY



I can explore the ocean.

I can pretend to be a scuba diver.

Scuba Goggles and Underwater Cameras

*Create goggles and cameras for use in the Deep-Sea Dramatic Play
Independent Station*

How to Make Your Own Scuba Goggles

Materials for each pair:

- Two toilet paper rolls
- 2-3 ft piece of yarn
- Hole punch
- Stapler

Set Up:

1. Staple two toilet paper rolls together
2. Hole punch two holes on one end
3. String yarn through each hole and tie a knot



1



2



3



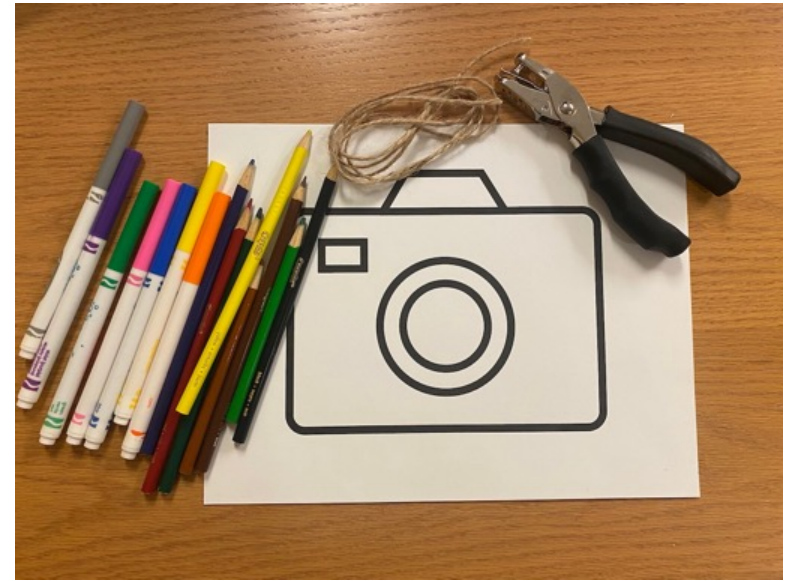
How to Make Your Own Underwater Cameras

Materials for each camera:

- Camera cutout on cardstock (attached)
- Art materials
- 2-3 ft piece of yarn
- Hole punch
- Scissors

Set Up:

1. Decorate your camera and cut it out
2. Hole punch two holes at the top of the camera
3. String yarn through each hole and tie a knot



1

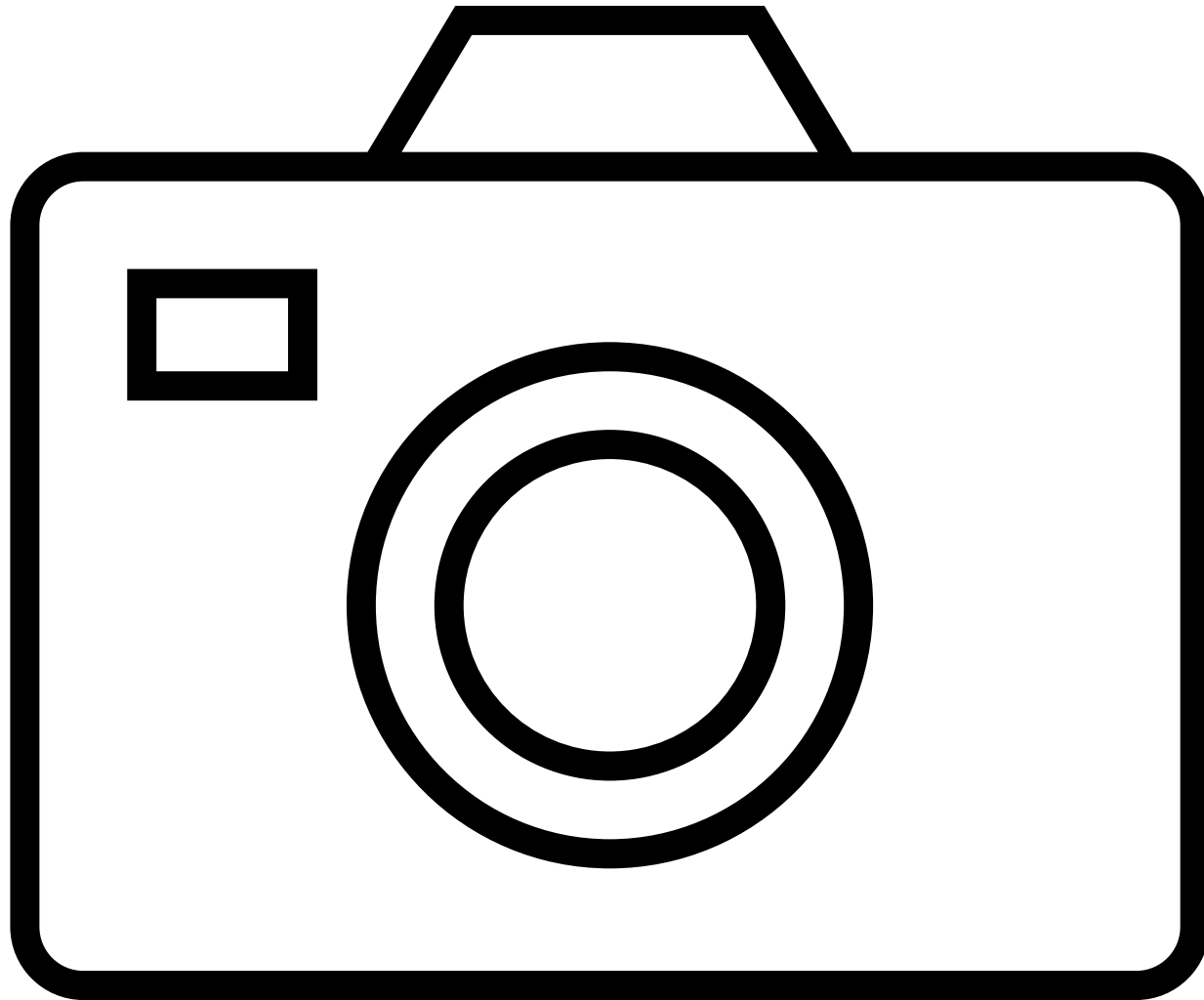


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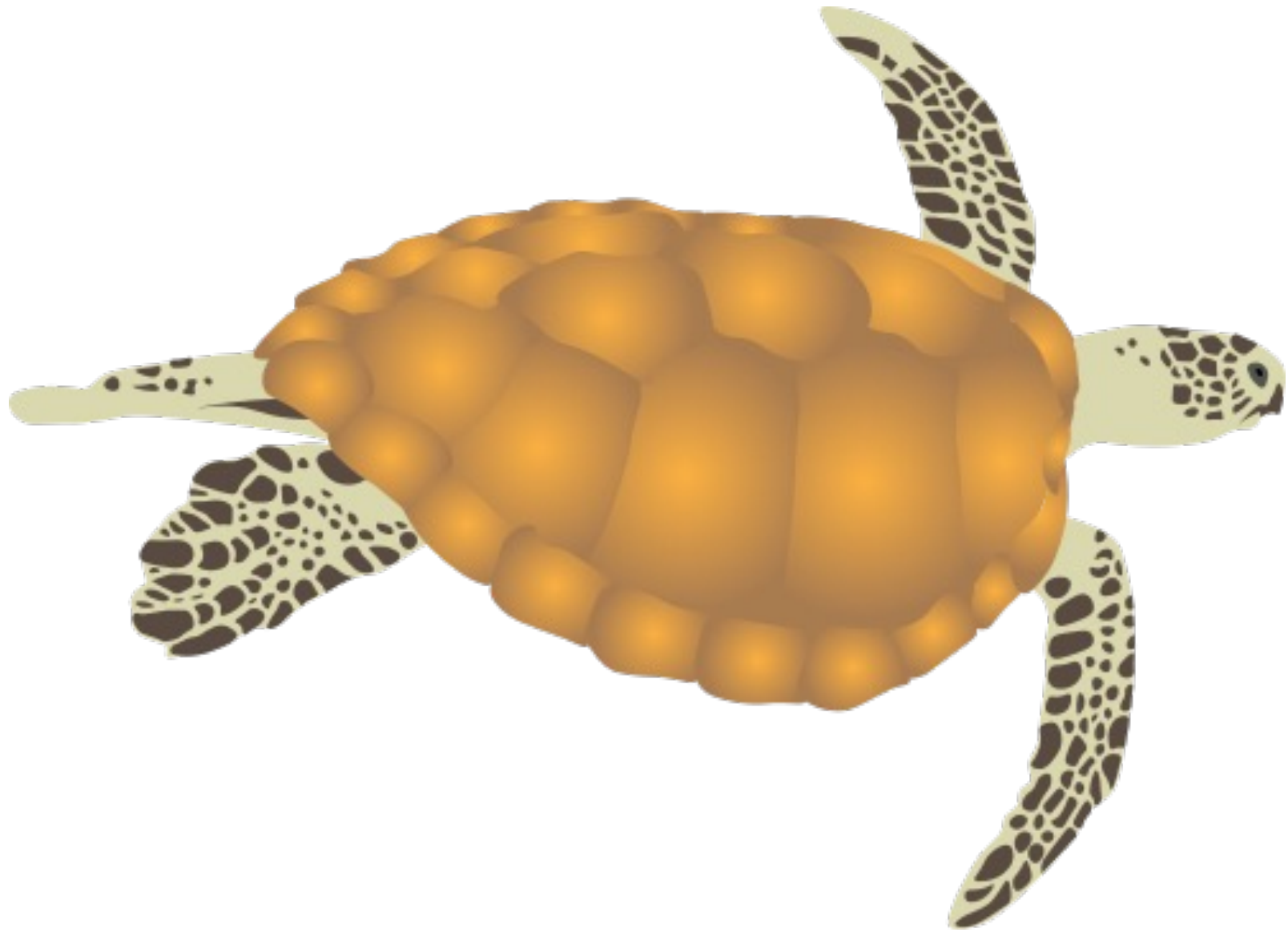
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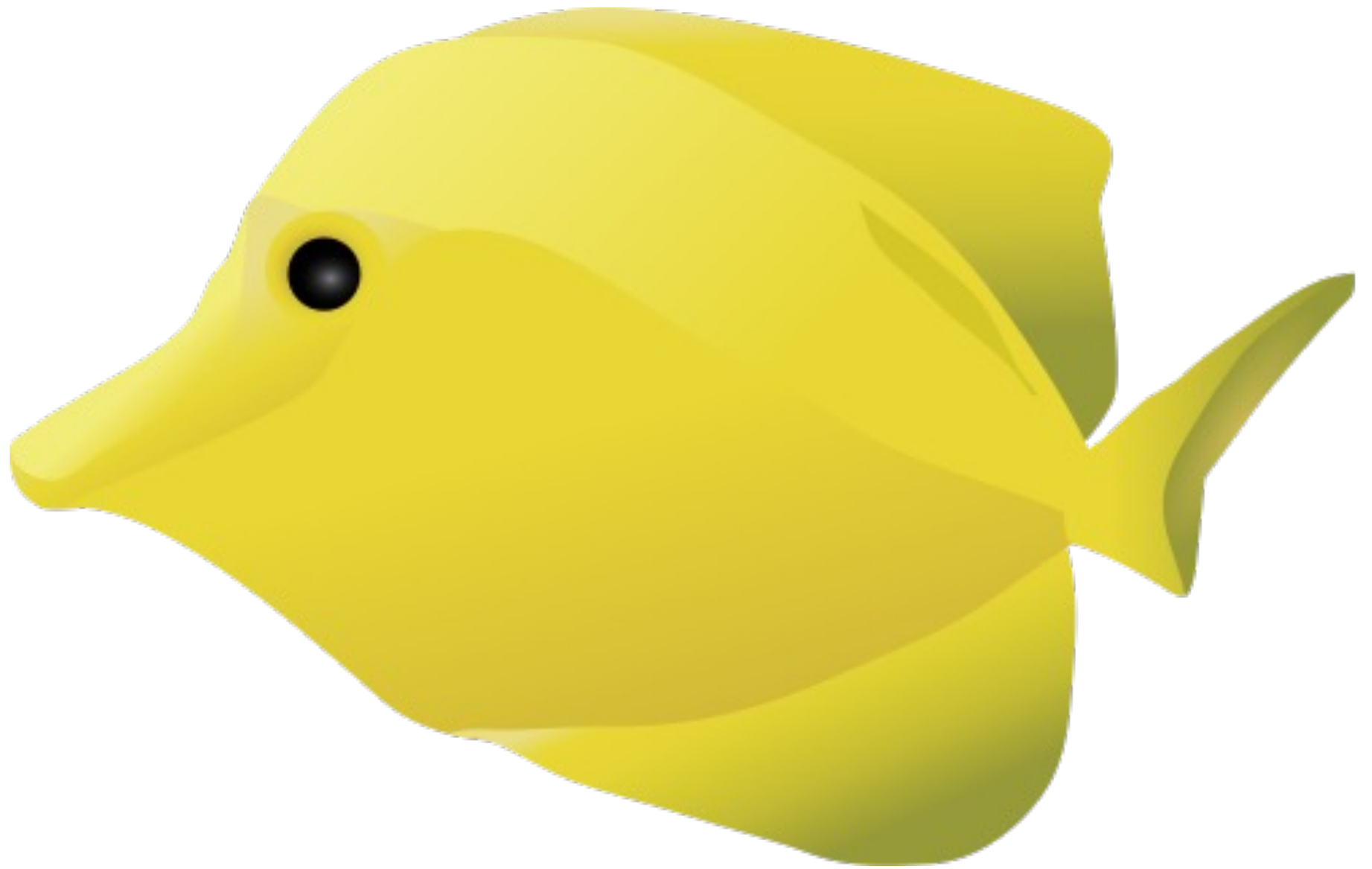


Ocean Animal Cutouts

*Print and display for inspiration in the Deep-Sea Dramatic Play
Independent Station*



Green sea turtle, Image credit: Annie Carew, Integration and Application Network



Yellow tang, Image credit: Joanna Woerner, Integration and Application Network



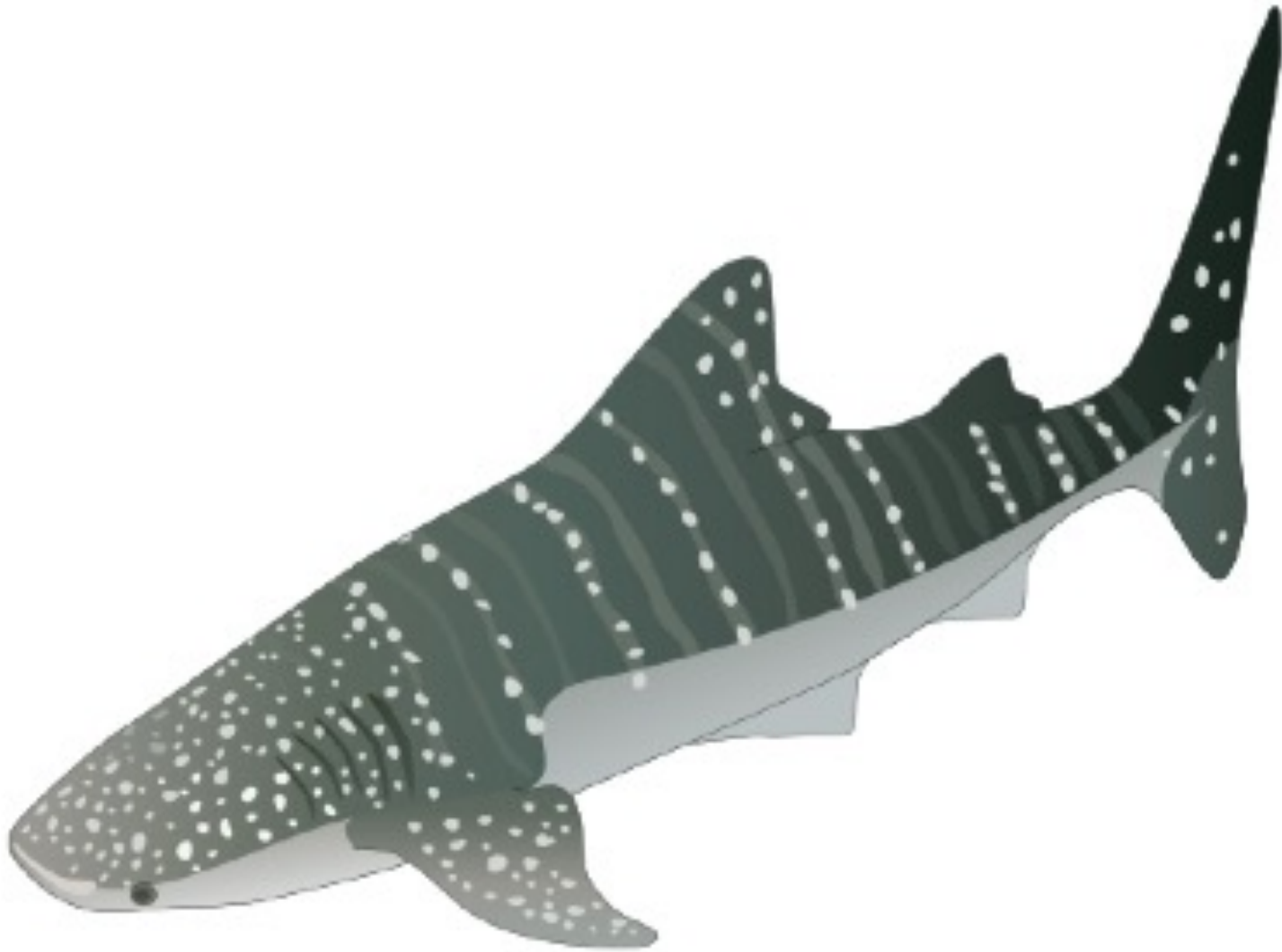
Common mola, Image credit: Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network



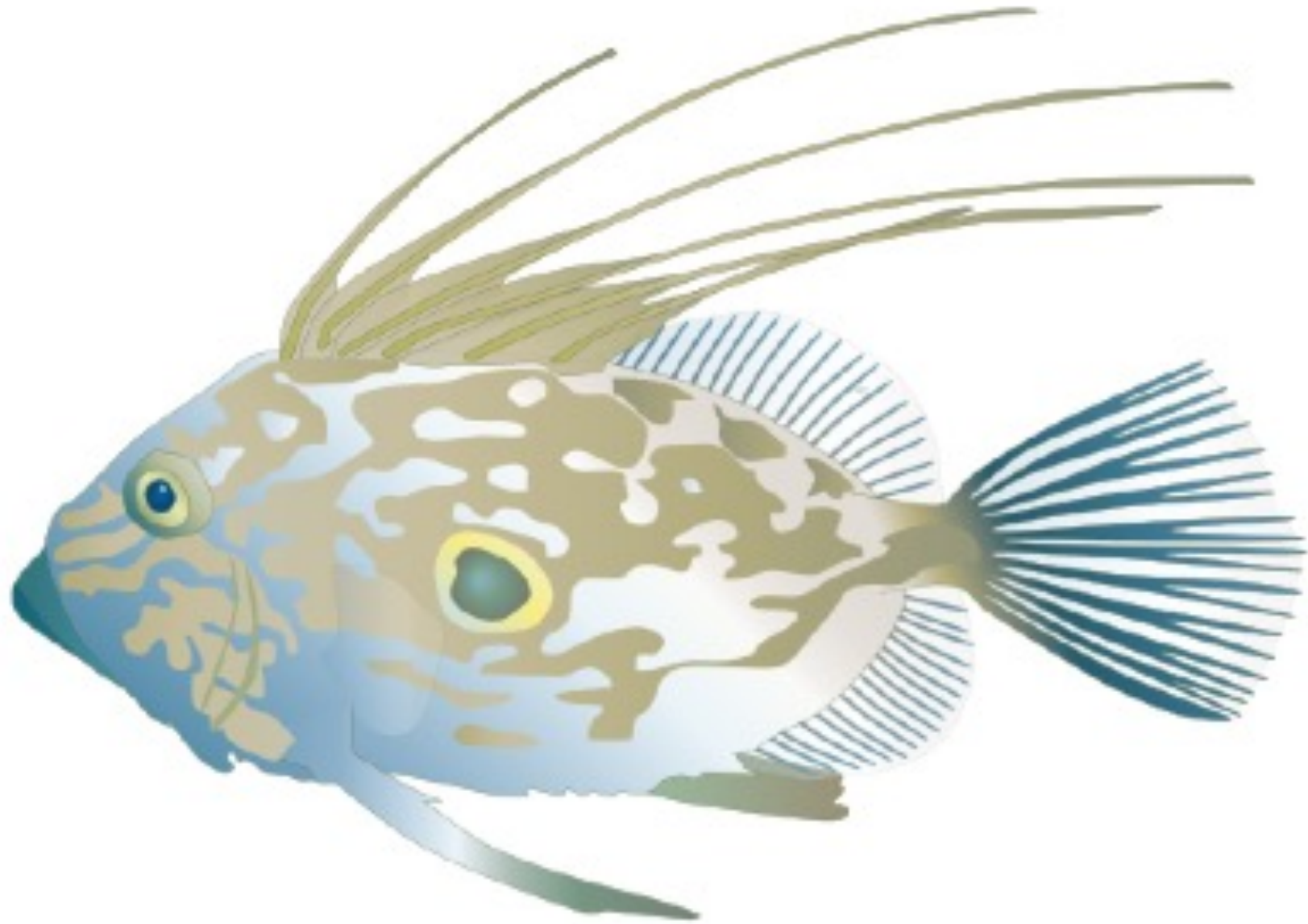
Lined seahorse, Image credit: Jane Thomas, Integration and Application Network



Achilles tang, Image credit: Joanna Woerner, Integration and Application Network



Whale shark, Image credit: Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network



John Dory, Image credit: Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network

Independent Learning Station 3: Ocean Shape Landscapes

The following resources are included for this station:

- Teacher Instructions
 - Student Sign
- Ocean Landscapes Images

Ocean Shape Landscapes Teacher Instructions

At this learning station, students use shapes to create an ocean landscape with ocean plants and animals.

Materials:

- Colored paper
- Pre-cut shapes (triangles, stars, circles, squares, etc.)
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Ocean landscape photographs for inspiration (attached)

Set Up:

At a table, provide students with a few options of colored paper for their ocean scene's background (light blue, dark blue, and/or white) and provide other colored paper shapes for them to glue onto their paper to create an ocean scene. Display several ocean landscape photographs nearby as inspiration for your students!

OSSE DC Early Learning Standards:

- Pre-K 28a. Participates in art activities, responding to visual art forms
- Pre-K 28b. Uses a variety of materials to create products
- Pre-K 28c. Expresses experiences, ideas and feelings through visual arts



OCEAN SHAPE LANDSCAPES



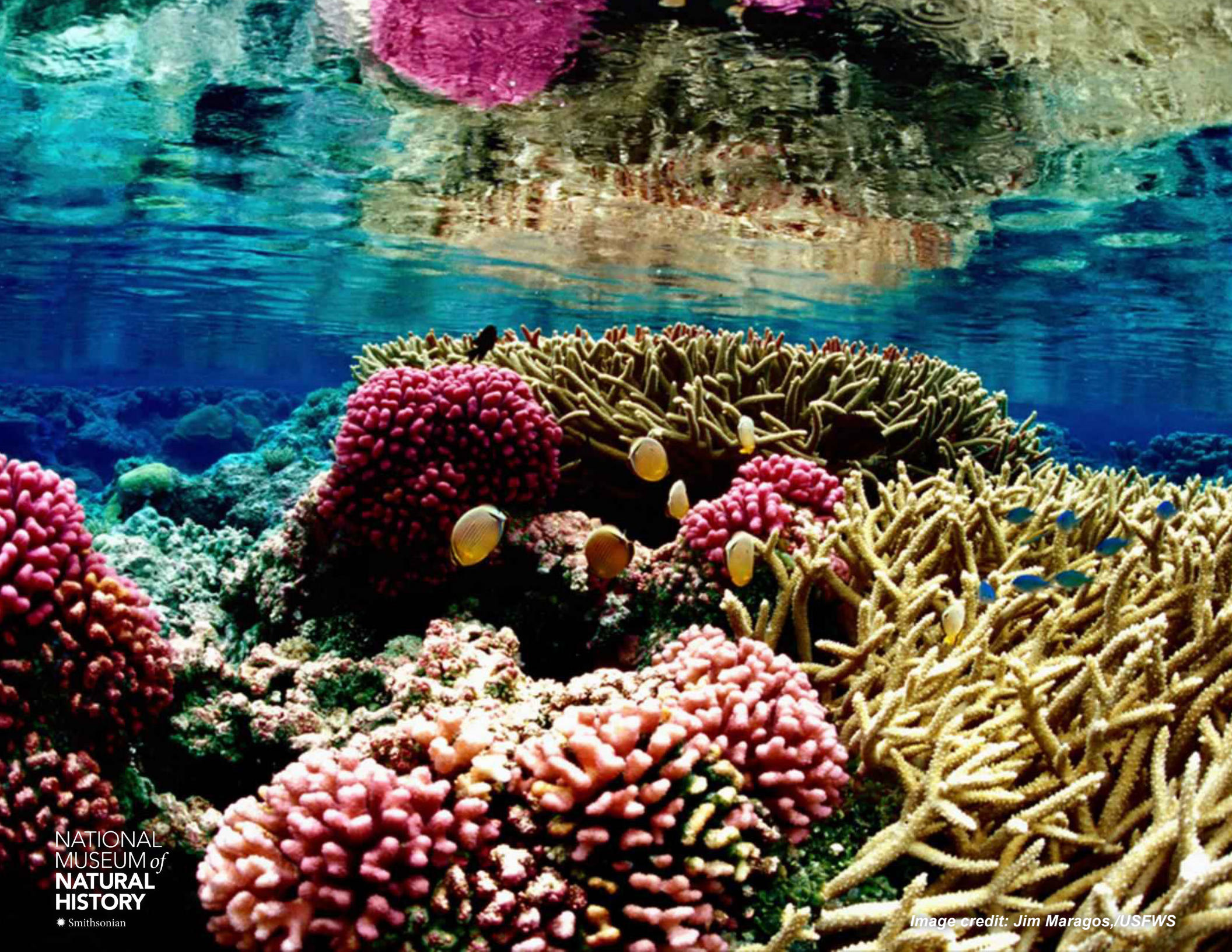
I can create ocean artwork.



I can make an ocean scene with shapes.

Ocean Shape Landscapes Cutouts

*Print and display for inspiration in the Create Your Own Ocean Landscapes
Pre-K Independent Station*







NATIONAL
MUSEUM of
NATURAL
HISTORY

Smithsonian

Jarvis Island, Photo credit: Kevin Lino, NOAA/NMFS/PIFSC/ESD



Independent Learning Station 4: Create Your Own Ocean Animal

The following resources are included for this station:

- Teacher Instructions
 - Student Sign
- Ocean Animals Images

Create Your Own Ocean Animal Teacher Instructions

At this learning station, students use shapes, recycled objects, and other art supplies to create an ocean animal.

Materials:

- Colored paper
- Repurposed objects
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Ocean animal photographs for inspiration (attached)

Set Up:

At a table, provide students with one piece of colored paper for their background, then provide them with other materials to create their own ocean animal. This is a great opportunity to use repurposed objects like scrap paper, recycled objects, and more to create artwork in the classroom.

OSSE DC Early Learning Standards:

- Pre-K 28a. Participates in art activities, responding to visual art forms
- Pre-K 28b. Uses a variety of materials to create products
- Pre-K 28c. Expresses experiences, ideas and feelings through visual arts



CREATE YOUR OWN OCEAN ANIMAL

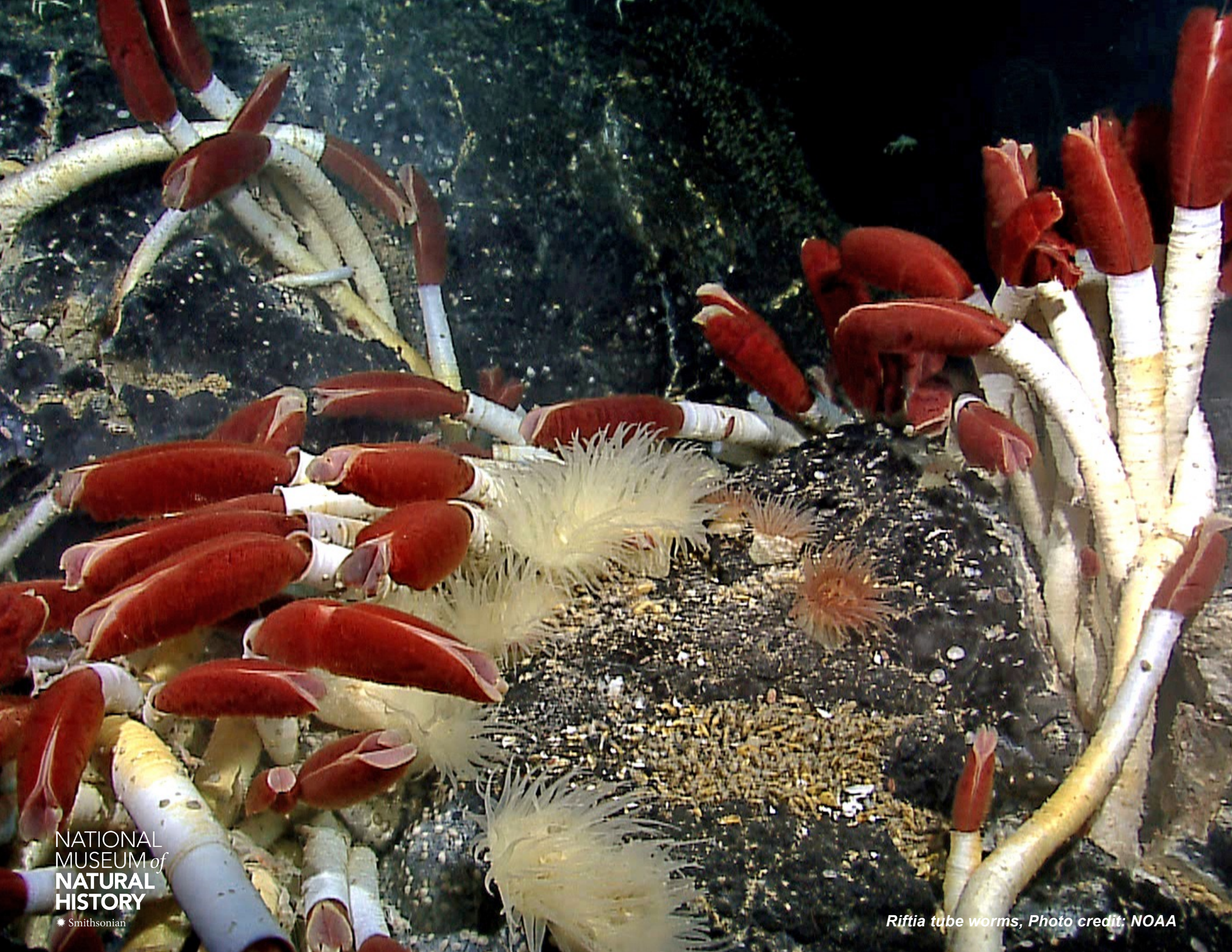


I can create animal artwork.

I can use shapes to show an ocean animal.

Ocean Animals Images

*Print and display for inspiration in the Create Your Own Ocean Animal
Pre-K Independent Station*









Independent Learning Station 5: Ocean Exploration

The following resources are included for this station:

- Teacher Instructions
- Student Sign

Ocean Exploration Teacher Instructions

At this learning station, students can use their sense of touch and smell to explore and discover more about the ocean.

Materials:

- Sensory table or large buckets
- Water and/or sand
- Small ocean animal toys
- Seashells or other beach items
- Water beads

Set Up:

Fill up your sensory table or sensory bins (you can use old plastic bins) with sand and/or water. Add ocean elements for your students to explore. Have a towel nearby in the case of any spills or messes.

OSSE DC Early Learning Standards:

- Pre-K 1a. Demonstrates curiosity and eagerness to learn by showing interest in a growing range of topics, ideas and tasks

OCEAN EXPLORATION



I can move ocean objects.



I can use my hands to explore ocean objects.

Independent Learning Station 6: Ocean Counting

The following resources are included for this station:

- Teacher Instructions
 - Student Sign
- Ocean Ten Frames
 - Ocean Cards

Ocean Counting Teacher Instructions

At this learning station, students can practice counting ocean animals to learn more about the ocean and build one-to-one correspondence as they count.

Materials:

- Counters or other math manipulatives
- Laminated ocean tens frames (attached)
- Laminated number cards (attached)
- Dry erase markers (optional)

Set Up:

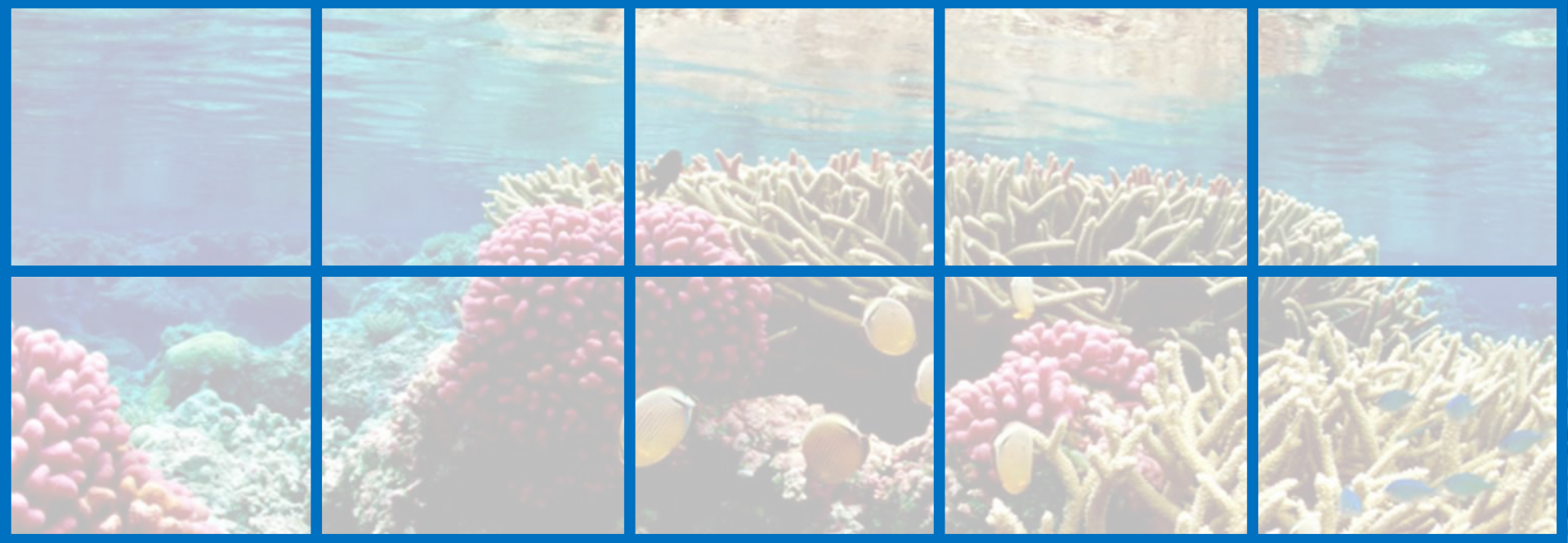
At a table, provide students with number cards they can select or draw from a stack. When they draw a card, they can count the ocean animals on the card, then count the same number of counters or math manipulatives out on the ocean tens frames. You can add dry erase markers for students to practice writing numbers in the tens frames.

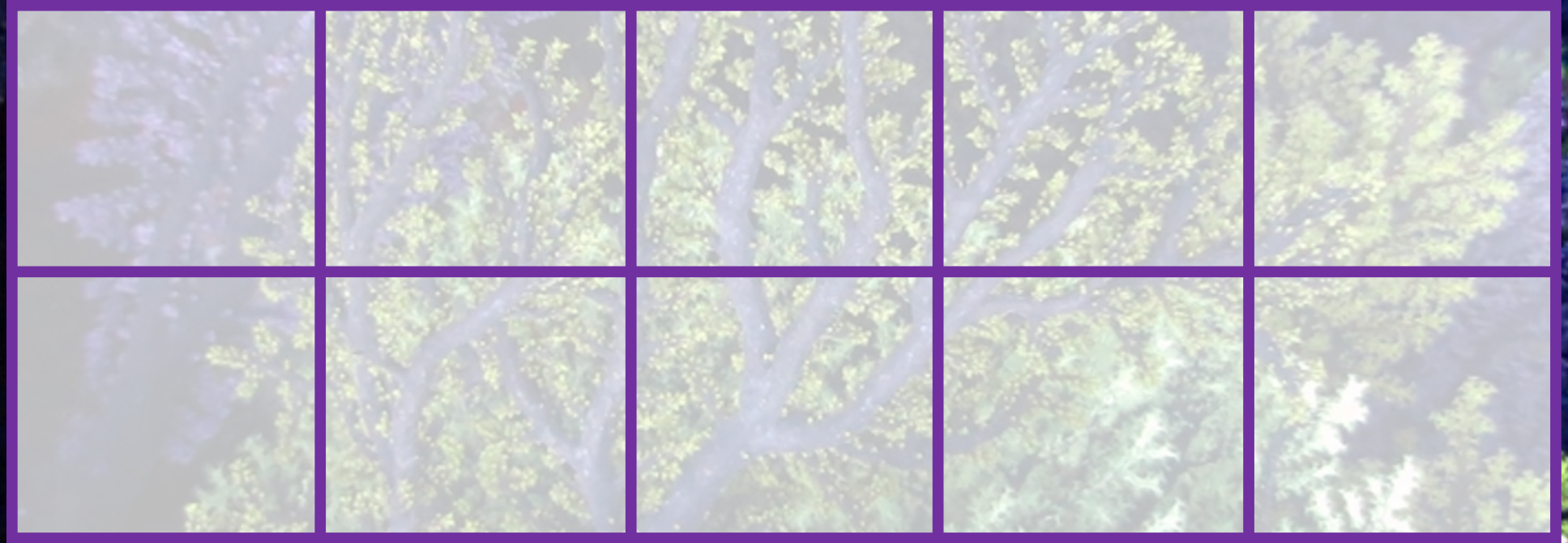
OSSE DC Early Learning Standards:

- Pre-K 15d. Counts 10–20 objects accurately, using one number name for each object
- Pre-K 15e. Understands that the last number named tells the number of objects counted and that the number of objects is the same regardless of their arrangement or the order in which they were counted

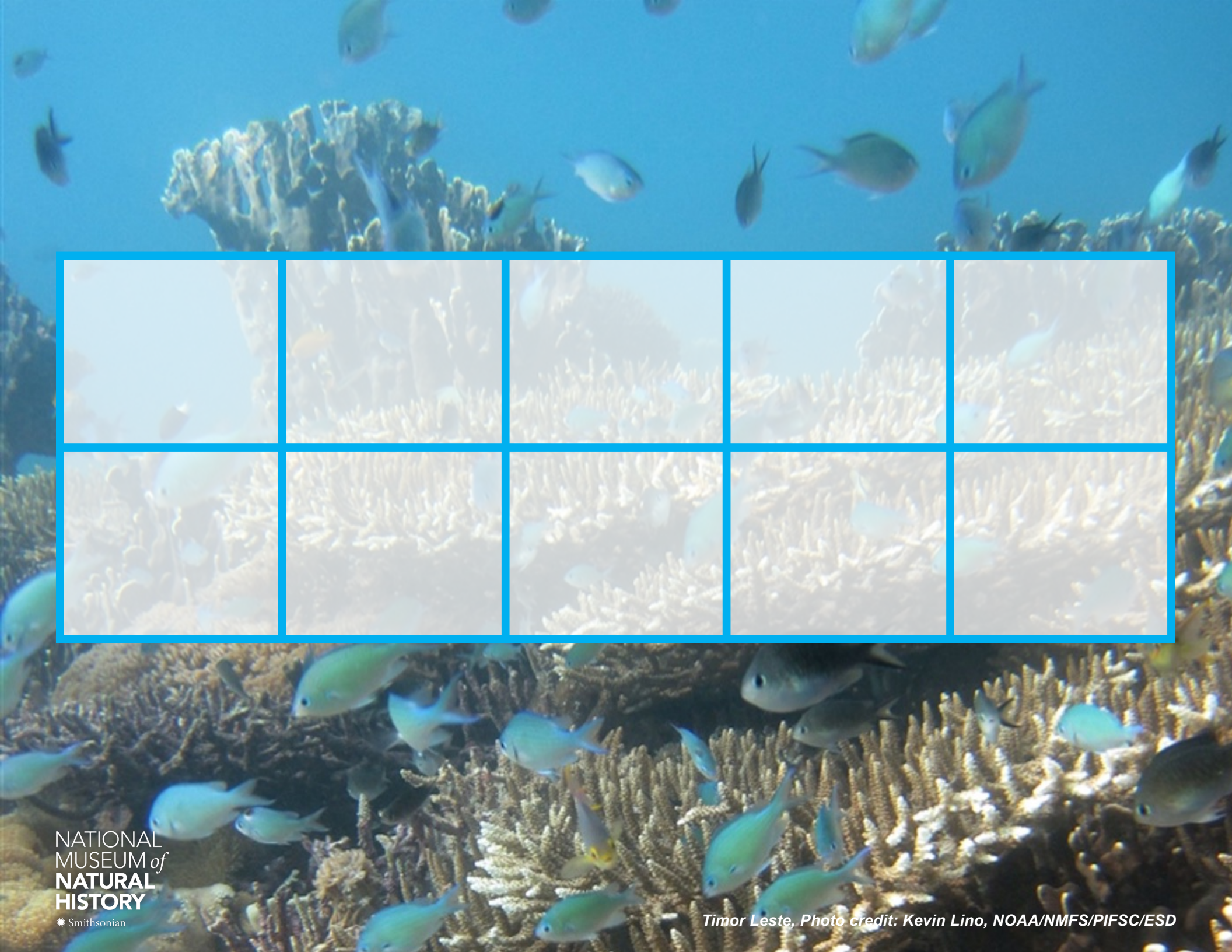
Ocean Tens Frames

Print the following graphics and laminate for use in Ocean Counting









Ocean Number Cards 1–10

Print and laminate for use in Ocean Counting

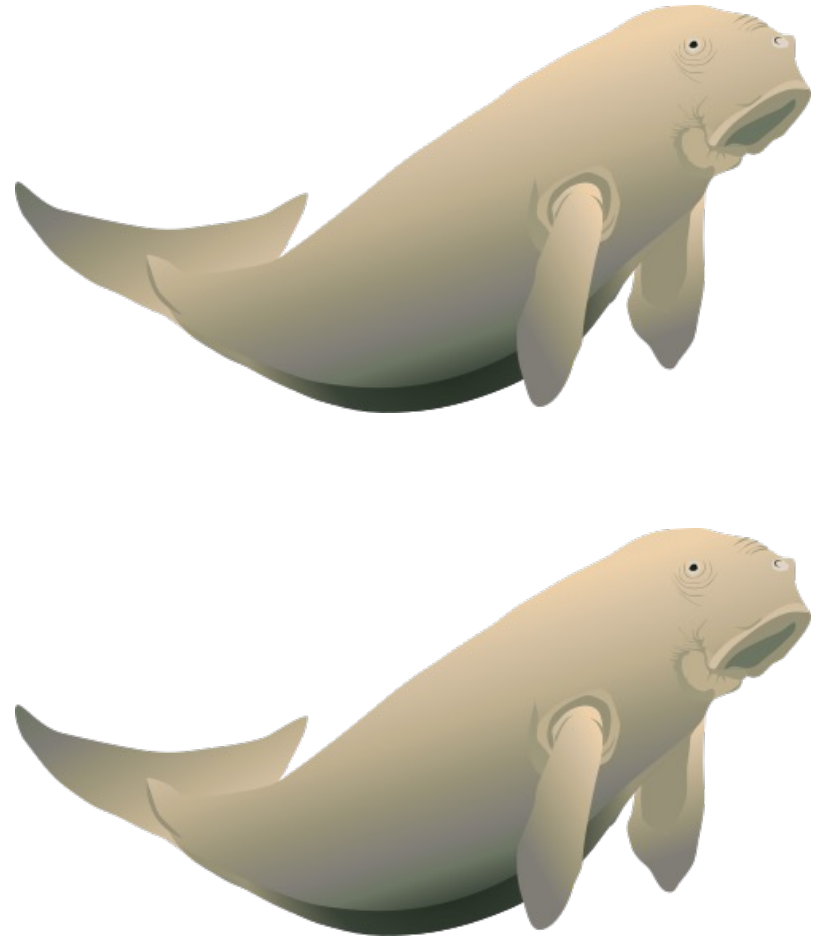
1



Common mola

Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

2



Dugongs

Jane Hawkey, Integration and Application Network (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

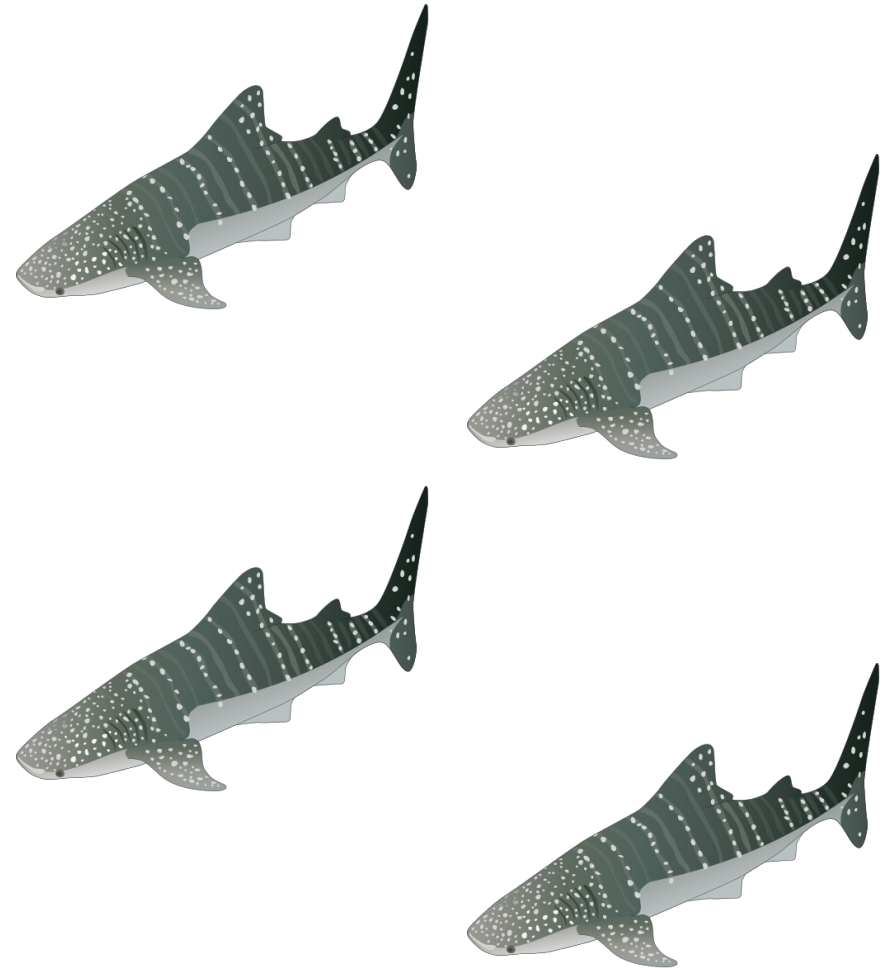
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Manta rays

Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

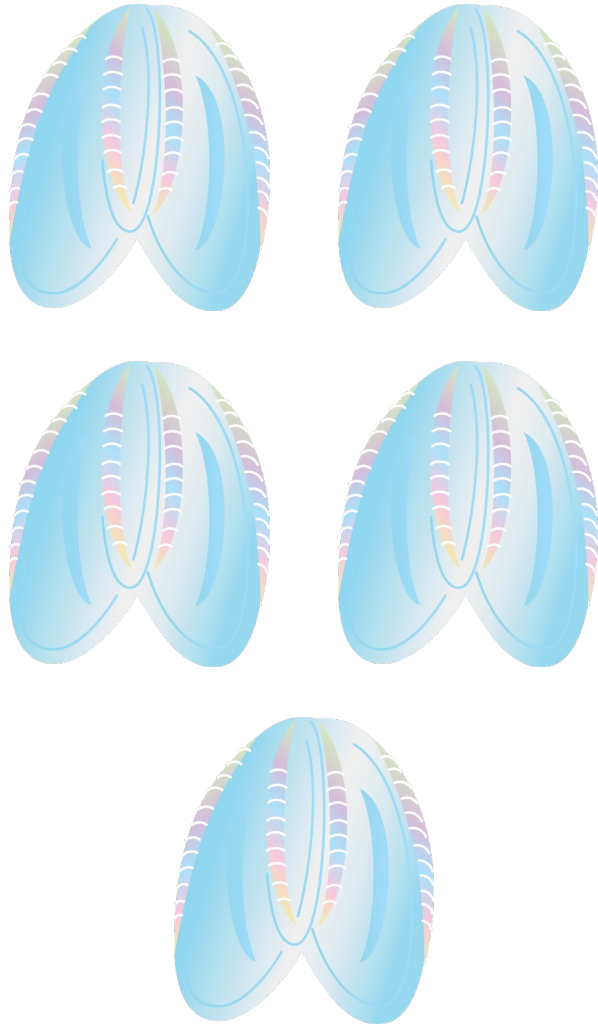
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Whale sharks

Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

5



Comb jellies

Jane Thomas, *Integration and Application Network* (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

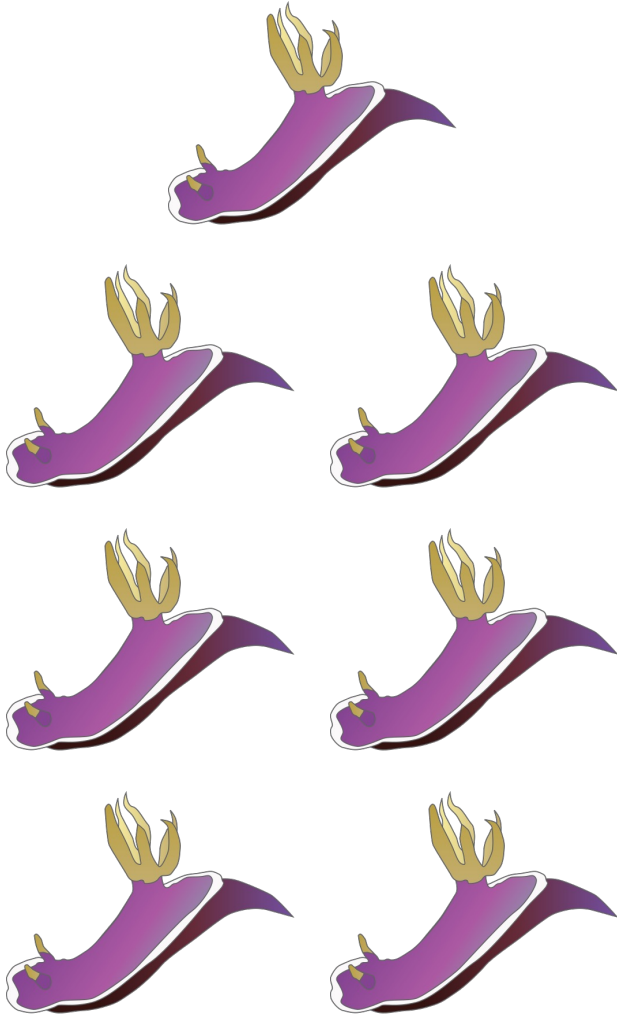
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Sea otters

Tracey Saxby, *Integration and Application Network* (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

7



Nudibranchs

Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

8



Coral polyps

Tracey Saxby, Integration and Application Network (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

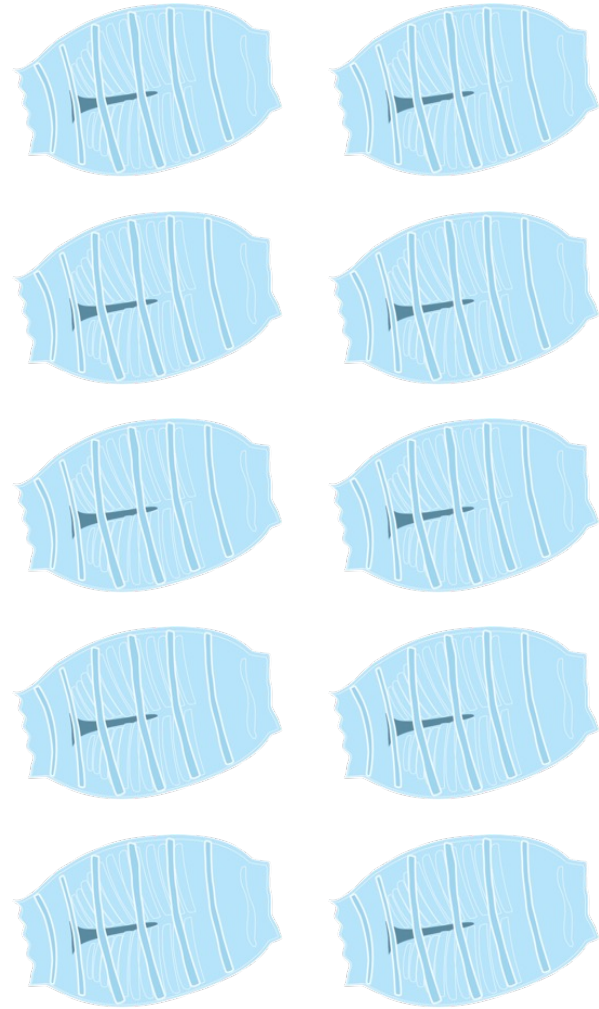
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Seahorses

Tracey Saxby, *Integration and Application Network* (ian.umces.edu/media-library)

10



Zooplankton

Tracey Saxby, *Integration and Application Network* (ian.umces.edu/media-library)