



Grade 4 Science

Life Science: Habitats

Focuses in this unit are inquiry and decision-making. Students, while exploring and investigating the plants and animals that live in local habitats, should realize the impact that they can have on the environment. How do they treat the organisms that they encounter? Are they going to ensure that they do not leave behind any garbage? What small steps can they take in their local area to ensure that habitats are preserved and protected? Their investigation of a habitat and their impact on it can be used to create a meaningful context which drives this unit.

Specific Curriculum Outcomes

302-3 Classify organisms according to their role in the food chain

301-1 Predict how the removal of a plant or animal population affects the rest of the community

Also consider the Science, Technology, Society and Environment (STSE) Education Expectations:

106-4: Describe instances where scientific ideas and discoveries have led to new inventions and applications

108-1: Identify positive and negative effects of familiar technologies

Suggested Teaching and Learning Strategies

Using the mussel life cycle section of the **General Aquaculture Presentation Resource** and the planktology section of the **Oceanography and Planktology Presentation Resource** and the **Newfoundland Plankton Resource** learn about the food chain that incorporates plankton and mussels. Then the following activities can be done to observe parts of this food chain.

- **Plankton Net activity**

- **Plankton Viewer activity**
- **Aquascope Activity**

Other activities that can be incorporated into the teacher's repertoire:

- **Aquaculture and Fisheries Trivia**
- **Make an impression of a fish activity**
- **Hypothesis in Science activity**
- **Husbandry techniques and recording data activity**
- **Designing fish and fish anatomy activity**
- **Backyard fish farming techniques**
- **Weight of freshwater vs. saltwater activity**
- **Tagging and recapture activity**
- **Study of scales activity**
- **Seafood Mazes**
- **Fun invertebrate activity**
- **Fish Anatomy activity**
- **Bioaccumulation activity**
- **Free Books**

Videos about aquaculture and habitats:

- Videos on mussel farming
- Videos about sustainability in salmon farming
- Salmon farming video
- Virtual dissection of a salmon
- Seaweed video – Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture