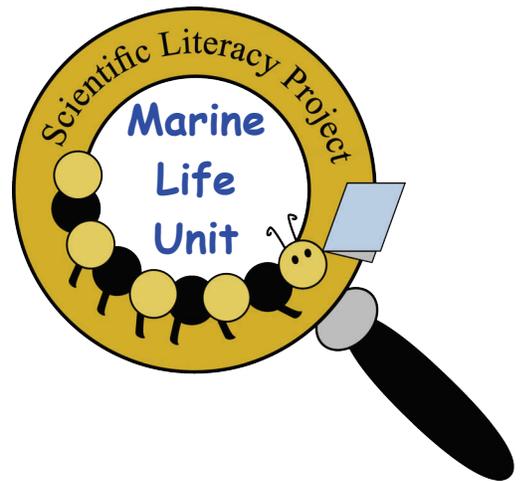


Let's Read Together and Learn about Science



Fish

by Stanley L. Swartz

Helpful Reading Ideas

To Get Started:

Discuss the cover page:

- **What** do you think this book is about?
- **Where** is the title of the book?

Read the title and author aloud.

Read the table of contents together.

- **What** does a table of contents tell us?

While Reading:

Pause and ask your child to identify each picture and talk about it. Find things in the book to discuss with your child. Ask questions like:

Pages 4–5:

- **Why** do you think fish swim in schools (groups)?
(for protection from predators.)

Pages 6–7:

- **How** do the colors on a fish help protect it? (*camouflage*)
- **What** other living things use their colors for protection? (*deer, snow rabbits, flatfish*)

Pages 16–17:

- **What** other animals use their colors to warn other animals to stay away? (*skunks, poison dart frogs, black widow spiders*)

When Finished:

- **What** did we learn about fish?
- **Which** of the fish we read about is your favorite? Why?
- **What** makes the fish you chose different from the other fish in this book?

Words of Science

Review these new words from the book with your child, talk about their meaning, and use them in examples during the week.

beak **jaw**
protect **gills**
slender **shells**
schools **fins**
enemies
sea anemone
coral reef
unusual
poisonous

Science in Action

I wonder what happens when....
Compare (the same & different)
I still want to know...
I predict that...



A clown fish swimming in his habitat — a sea anemone.

Number Skills

Use the book to strengthen number skills. For example ask:

- **How many times** do you see the word “fish” on page 3?
- **How many** fish eyes do you see? (p. 4)
- **How many** white stripes do you see on the Harlequin Tuskfish? (p. 18)

Fun Facts about Breathing

How do we breathe? How about dolphins?



We use our **lungs** to breathe in the oxygen from the air.

Like us, fish need to breathe. Fish don't have lungs. They have **gills**. Fish take in the oxygen from the water through their gills.

Whales and dolphins are **mammals** like us, not fish. They have to take oxygen from the air, not out of the water. They store oxygen in their lungs.

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Helen Patrick, © 2009

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How Do Fish Breathe Underwater?

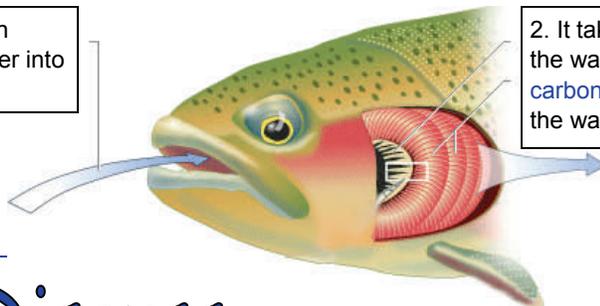
When a fish pulls water into its body, it passes through the mouth and leaves through the gills. A fish's **blood** moves through the gills and around its body.

So, the **oxygen** from the water enters the blood and is carried to the rest of the fish's body. Also,

the **carbon dioxide** in the fish's body is carried to the gills and exits

into the water. When the water leaves the fish's body, the carbon dioxide is carried away.

1. The fish takes water into its mouth.



2. It takes **oxygen** from the water and puts **carbon dioxide** back in the water.

3. The water leaves through the **gills**.

Explore and Discuss

Ask your child some additional questions about concepts that they learned about in this book. Try using words and phrases from the "Words of Science" list.

For example ask:

- People can swim and fish can swim. Do they use **the same** body parts to swim? Do they breathe **the same way**? What is **different**?

- **I wonder what happens when** a fish gets out of water...
- Zebras travel in large groups called **herds**. Now, **I wonder if** this is like schools of fish. Why do you think zebras travel in herds?
- **What** do you still want to know? Was there anything you didn't understand in the book?

