

VISIT THE TIDEPOOLS!

NSTA Standards (5–8):

A, C, E, F

Objectives:

Students will . . .

- examine the organisms in a virtual tidepool.
- record the characteristics of various tidepool organisms.

Materials Required:

- computer with Internet access
- pencil or pen

Web Site(s):

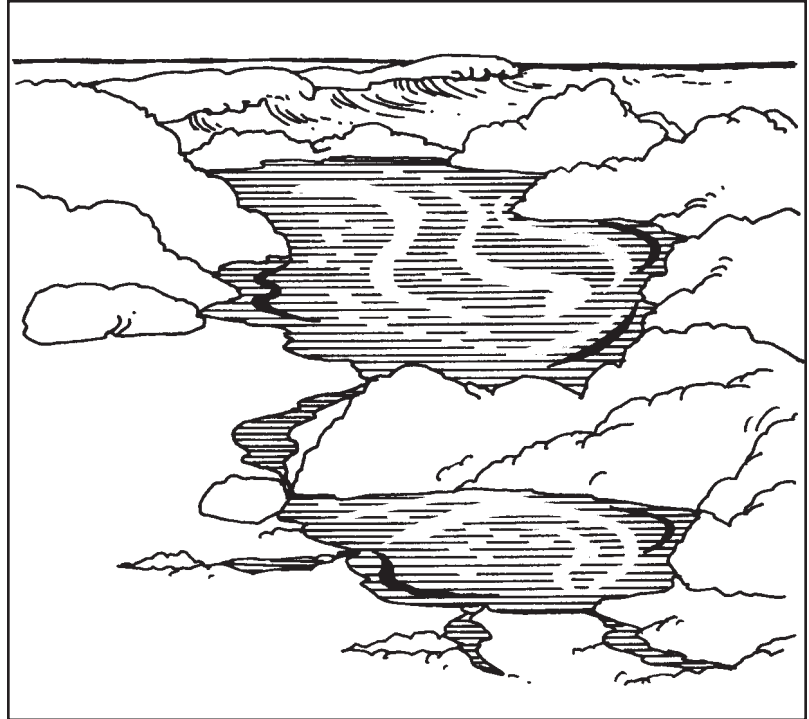
- <http://oberon.educ.sfu.ca/splash/tank.htm>

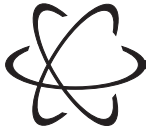
Time:

approximately 25–30 minutes

Teaching the Lesson:

- If you have samples of these tidepool organisms, have them available for students to examine.
- This activity can be a part of any marine-related unit that you do. Make use of the movies online if you have the correct software plug-in.





VISIT THE TIDEPOOLS! (cont.)

Name: _____

Date: _____ Period: _____

Whether or not you live near the ocean, tidepools are fascinating to visit. Here is your chance to learn close up about some of the animals you might expect to find in a tidepool.

Directions:

Launch <http://oberon.educ.sfu.ca/splash/tank.htm>. Look carefully at the organisms you see in the virtual tidepool on this Web page. If your teacher permits, you can click to see these creatures move. Find and click on the purple sea star.

1. Explain how this creature eats its food.
2. Many scientists and teachers prefer to use the term “sea star” instead of the more commonly used “starfish.” Why is “starfish” not really an accurate name for this creature?

Click on the spiny dogfish.

3. If you were fishing and caught a spiny dogfish, what would you have to be especially careful about when handling this fish?

Click on the red sea squirt.

4. If you were 100 meters from shore, would you expect to find any of these creatures in the water? Why or why not?

Click on the finger sponge.

5. What is the name of the large opening at the tip of each “finger” of the sponge?