

# Ocean

by Samantha Gray

A world of discovery with dramatic, atmospheric photography providing a wealth of visual information and fascinating facts about favorite ocean animals, including sharks, whales, and dolphins.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Have you ever seen animals swimming under water?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the shark sees the diver?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *Ocean*

- algae: plants that live in water
- antarctic: the cold area around the South Pole
- arctic: the cold area around the North Pole
- blubber: a thick layer of fat that keeps polar animals and whales warm in cold waters
- coast: the border of the land where it meets the sea
- gills: the part of a fish's body that absorbs oxygen from water so they can breathe under water
- kelp: a type of giant seaweed
- luminous: the effect of giving off light
- mammal: a warm-blooded animal that breathes oxygen from the air
- mollusc: animals that have a soft body and no backbone - clams, octopuses, sea slugs, and squid are molluscs
- oceanography: the study of the oceans
- predator: an animal that hunts other animals for food
- prey: an animal that is hunted by other animals for food
- seashore: the land along the edge of seas and oceans
- tentacles: long feelers, like bendable arms, for grasping

## After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Can you name a zone in the ocean?
- Can you name the different kinds of fish that live in the sunlit zone? Twilight zone? Midnight zone?
- Can you name the deepest ocean?
- What color is the earth from space?
- What is the largest mammal?
- What fish has no brains, bones, hearts, or eyes and is more than 95% water?
- What is the largest fish? Name the types of sharks?
- What is the largest creature in the ocean? Name the types of whales? Do they have teeth?
- What small, toothed whale is friendly toward people?
- What sea mammal is called the underwater lawnmower?
- What bird has webbed feet for swimming in the ocean? Big appetite?
- Where do female green turtles go to lay their eggs?
- What two fish have long "arms" called tentacles?
- What type of ocean do coral reefs grow in? Can you name some different kinds of coral?
- What large reef can be seen from space? Australia's Great Barrier Reef?
- What is the tiniest fish found in a coral reef?
- Can you tell me what color skin polar bears have?
- Where do penguins live? Can they fly?
- What kinds of equipment do divers need to survive under water?



**Do**

## Making Waves with Ocean Music

Provide a sheet and a beach ball. Have the children bounce the ball on the sheet as they make waves with the sheet. Provide a tape of ocean sounds for the children to listen to while making waves.