

## Seaworld Project Kit

Congratulations! You're going to Seaworld! Use these project ideas to enrich your educational experience. Read through them before you go to make sure you understand the terms and concepts, and to help you determine if you want to expand upon any of them. **You'll find fun facts and printable worksheets at the end of this packet.**

a- elementary level activity    b- middle school level activity    c- high school level activity

### **Language Arts**

Animals have language, too! Take some time to observe animals interacting with each other. How are they communicating to each other? How are they reacting to one another? Do you see positive or negative emotions in their communications (learn about anthropomorphism, and be careful to not anthropomorphize the animals)? What are they trying to achieve? Is the way they are communicating effective? What can we learn from them? What are the differences in the ways mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and fish interact?

- a. Draw a picture about what you see. Talk or write about it.
- b. Write a few short paragraphs about what you see. Talk about it.
- c. Write a short essay about what you see. Discuss ways in which we, as humans, can use some of our communication skills to better exist in harmony with one another. What kinds of communications should we avoid, and which should we employ more frequently?

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil

Submission: A copy of your writings/drawing, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

### **Applied Math**

Animals eat a lot! How much animal food does Seaworld have to purchase and prepare? How many animals live at the park? Use technology or ask a keeper/employee to get estimates, and use those estimates to calculate how much money Seaworld spends to feed its animals.

- a. Choose one animal to research how much it eats in a day. Calculate how much food it would need in a year. Draw or write about your findings.
- b. Choose one animal to research how much it eats. Calculate how much food it would need in a year, and estimate how much that food will cost. Then, multiply that figure by the number of that type of animal Seaworld takes care of. Record your calculations.
- c. Calculate estimates of food needs for each animal, each type of animal, and all of the animals at Seaworld. Do this per day and per year. Estimate how much that would cost. Record your calculations.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil, calculator or smartphone (optional)

Submission: Your calculations, estimations, and conclusions, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

## **Science**

Every animal has a unique life history. A “life history” is the story of an animal’s life from birth (or fertilization) to adulthood (and death). How many different ways can an animal begin it’s life? Are some animals more independent as babies than others? Why do you think this is? What about their lives affect how vulnerable they are when they are born? What kinds of animals raise their babies, and what kinds don’t? How does this affect how many babies survive to adulthood?

- a. Choose an animal to think about these questions for. Draw or write about your ideas.
- b. Discuss and diagram the unique life history of one of the animals you see. Write a paragraph about your findings.
- c. Discuss the life history of one of the animals at Seaworld. Write a short essay on your findings. Then, explore animal keeping. What kinds of things does Seaworld need to keep in mind about each animal's' life history when it is designing its living space and their plan for taking care of it? Does Seaworld have breeding programs for any of the animals? What are they working on currently? Ask a keeper/employee.

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil

Submission: A copy of your drawings, diagrams, maps, or designs, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

## **Social Studies**

There can be a lot of people at Seaworld! How do they handle the crowds? What affect does the layout of the park have on the movement of people? How does the design help both the animals and the people have an enjoyable time? Can you see these same principles in use in the planning of large cities or other social environments?

- a. Notice how many people are at the park. Discuss some of the things they do to control crowding and help make each guest's experience pleasurable. Write down the techniques you see and how often you see them being used.
- b. Analyze the layout of the park and if/why certain features were designed with the purpose of managing crowds. Use the map, and write down what you find.
- c. Discuss crowd control and analyze the layout of the park. Discuss the things you've seen in light of larger social environments you've been in. How universal are these techniques? What are your ideas for improving guest experience at Seaworld?

Materials required: Notebook, pen/pencil, park map

Submission: A copy of your writings/drawings, and any pictures/videos

Teaching or learning notes:

# FUN FACTS

- Sea World San Diego is the original Sea World.
- Sea World's shark tank contains 280,000 gallons of water!
- In 1980, Sea World San Diego became the first zoological park anywhere in the world to successfully breed emperor penguins outside of their native Antarctica. Twelve years later, in 1992, Sea World became the first park to perform a flight feather transplant on a brown pelican, an endangered species.
- Sea World's three aquariums--Aquarium de la Mer, World of the Sea and Freshwater--are home to more than 5,700 fish representing 434 species, from the Amazon River in Brazil to the Great Barrier Reef off Australia.
- The Killer Whale (also known as Orca) is actually a type of dolphin.
- Dolphins have excellent eyesight and hearing as well as the ability to use echolocation for finding the exact location of objects.
- All sea lion species are considered endangered species.
- A male sea lion can weigh up to 800 pounds and be 9 feet long!
- The largest ocean on Earth is the Pacific Ocean, it covers around 30% of the Earth's surface. The Pacific Ocean's name has an original meaning of "peaceful sea".
- Did you know that 94 percent of life on Earth is aquatic? That makes us land-dwellers a very small minority.
- We have only explored less than 5 percent of the Earth's oceans. In fact, we have better maps of Mars than we do of the ocean floor!

## SeaWorld

1. Draw a picture of your favorite part of the park.

2. Describe your favorite part and why you love it.

3. Are dolphins mammals? Why?

4. Draw or describe one animal you saw in the park.

5. Describe or draw one of the shows you saw.

6. How do the animal trainers train their animals?

**BONUS:**

SeaWorld is known for its efforts in conservation and animal rescue. Try to find more information about this around the park. How many animals do they rescue? What kind of animals do they rescue? What determines if a rescued animal can be released back into the wild?

