

**Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
FIRST GRADE**

Title of Lesson: Fish

Theme: Life Science

Unit Number: 6 **Unit Title:** Animal Planet

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter code):

S1CS1

S1L1

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Fish, fish parts and habitats

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)

Abstract(limit 100 characters): This lesson teaches kids about the parts of a fish and each part's function.

Details: When you walk into the room with a big box, naturally they are going to ask you what's inside. I suggest telling them right off the bat that there is a real shark inside (this gets them pretty excited). Start by showing them the fish book. The text is dense, but the pictures are good for showing them the different parts of a fish and explaining them.

When you are done with the book, ask them if they are ready to see the shark. I suggest putting your arm in the box and act like the shark has got you. Then pull out the jars with all the creatures and let them observe. **IMPORTANT:** *You need to establish some rules before you let them pass the fish around...

-Each person gets a turn and then passes it to the right/left

-Do not shake, open, throw, or roll the jars (this is the first thing they want to do)

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):

Fish science box from UGA Natural History Museum

Blank paper or worksheet for each kid

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):

Make sure they do not open the jars (they are filled with alcohol to preserve the fish)

The science boxes can be checked out from the UGA natural history museum (located behind the statistics building). There are many boxes, each with a different topic... trees, fish, birds, flower, etc. Each box comes with an assortment of stuff related to the topic. For example, the fish box comes with a few books, some posters, lots of jars with dead fish inside (including a shark), and some plastic cases with fish skeletons. Things you should know about the boxes:

-They must be requested a week in advance. My experience with the boxes was that they are checked out a lot, so you may need to request one more than a week ahead of time

-They ask for a \$25 check upon check out. They do not cash the check unless you steal the box.

Sources/References:

- 1)**
- 2)**
- 3)**