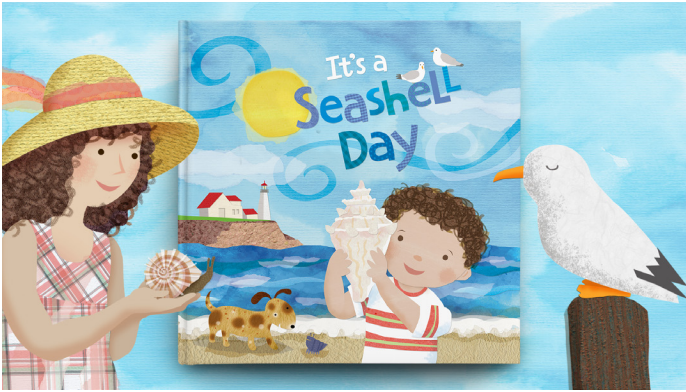


It's a Seashell Day



Book Information

Run Time	7:16
Author	Dianne Ochiltree
Illustrator	Elliot Kreloff
Narrator	Armen Taylor
Publisher	Blue Apple Books; 2015
Ages	3–7/PreK–2
Genre	Narrative nonfiction
Text Structure	First person narrative
Themes & Ideas	Counting, nature, seashells, beach
Language & Literary Features	Simple rhyming couplets with dialogue mixed in
Sentence Complexity	Simple sentences
Vocabulary	peeks, bay, dune, squish, lumpy, muck, spiny, twirly, skeleton, predators, species, suit of armor, snorkel, low tide, scallops, ocean currents, hermit crabs, clams
Special Vocabulary	calcium, siphon, mollusk
Illustrations	Full-color illustrations use cut-paper and collage techniques to create bright, attractive beach scenes.

Story Summary

A boy and his mother go down to the beach to explore and collect shells. Children learn about seashells and enjoy counting the variety of seashells. *It's a Seashell Day* also has facts about mollusks—the soft-bodied animals that wear their skeletons on the outside as seashells.



Focus

Seashells, Counting

Activity Ideas

Fact Sheet Suggested Use

An extra fact sheet has been added after the Pause & Ponder activity for multiple uses.

1. Have children create a presentation of facts about seashells.
2. Use T/F assessment after students have studied fact cards.
3. Ask children to make up their own questions to ask classmates to check understanding of facts.

Sorting Activity

Create drawings/pictures of many shells. Ask children to sort into groups using size, shape, color, etc.

Matching

Match picture with names of shells—whelk shell; oyster shell; scallop shell; mussel shell; moon snail shell; limpet shell; cone snail shell; razor shell; clam shell; conch shell

Additional activities can be found in the following pages of this document. Blue Apple Books sometimes combines an early reading story with an upper level lesson. The activities are developed to meet the needs of both readers.

It's a Seashell Day

A boy and his mother go down to the beach to explore and collect shells. Children learn about seashells and enjoy counting the variety of seashells.

Discuss the story and write your answers together.

Adults can help young readers make meaning of the text by prompting them to relate the book to what they already know and to their personal experiences. The following questions are written to lead children to move beyond the simple story and pictures and encourage them to think beyond the text. Please help your child answer the following questions:

Have you ever found seashells on the beach? Describe your day.

Describe a shell that you have seen.

What are some things that you can do on a beach?

Do you have a collection of any thing?

It's a Seashell Day

Pause at the indicated time stamps and discuss the story

Each resource/activity that accompanies the title, includes an interactive activity, Pause & Ponder, to help children understand and explore a deeper understanding of what the story means to them. After children view the story for the first time, view the story again using the Pause & Ponder, pausing at the time stamps provided, to discuss the questions with the children. These questions are designed to help children make inferences about and explain several story events. Then follow-up with the probing questions provided in the after viewing section of the Pause & Ponder to support children's ability to answer broader explanation questions. But, above all, enjoy!

0:37

This is a story about going to the beach. Have you ever been to the beach?

1:09

What is the difference between a seashell and a rock?

2:07

Who lives in the shell?

3:31

How did the boy have fun?

4:33

What happened to the mollusk inside the shell?

After viewing the Book:

1. What are two facts you learned from the story?

✓ Fact Sheet



Mollusks

- Animals with soft bodies that wear their skeletons on the outside.
- There are more than 100,000 species of mollusks worldwide.
- Every empty seashell on the beach was once a part of an animal from the mollusk family.
- About half of all mollusks live in the ocean.



Hermit Crabs

- Hermit crabs crawl into empty seashells and call them home. As hermit crabs grow bigger, they have to find larger and larger shells.



Scallops

- Scallops have dozens of eyes to help them see predators coming from any direction.



Clams

- Many clams breathe through a kind of 'snorkel', a body part called a siphon, when they bury themselves in sand.



Seashells

- Seashells are mostly made of calcium. So are our bones!
- A seashell wraps around a mollusk's body like a suit of armor. It protects the sea creature living inside from predators and strong ocean currents undersea.
- The best time to find seashells on the beach is in the morning or evening at low tide.
- Shells have been used throughout history for art, jewelry, money, tools, containers, and buttons.
- Seashells can be as small as a grain of rice or as big as four feet across.

NAME _____



Drawing and Writing

NAME _____

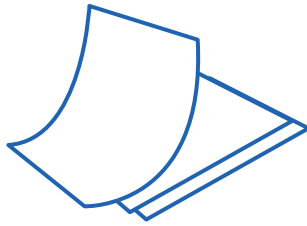
Write a story about a day at the beach. Draw a picture to illustrate your story.



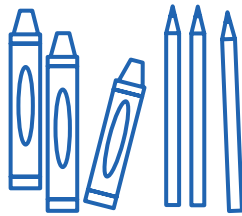
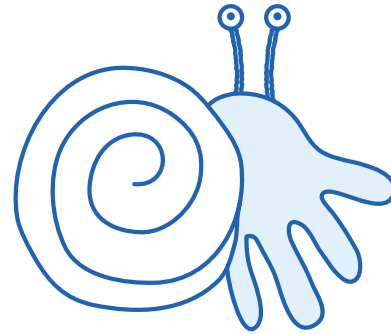
Create Your Own Hermit Crab



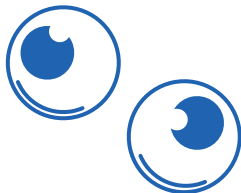
Red paint



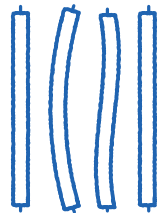
White paper



Crayons, colored pencils, or anything else that could be used for shell decoration



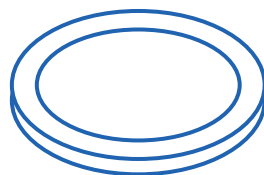
Googly eyes



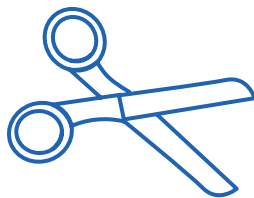
Red pipe cleaners



Glue



Paper plates



Scissors

Materials needed

- Red paint (children will be making hand prints, choose the type of paint accordingly)
- White paper (one sheet for each child)
- Red pipe cleaners (one for each child)
- Googly eyes (two for each child)
- White circle (cut from a paper plate; one for each child)
- Scissors
- Crayons, colored pencils, or anything else that could be used for shell decoration
- Glue

Directions

1. Paint one of the child's hands with red paint and have them make a handprint on the white sheet of paper. Once the paint is dry, cut the hand print out of the paper.
2. Cut around the inside of a paper plate and ask the child to decorate Hermit's shell.
3. (Optional) At this point you can add seeds, color or decorations as desired.
4. Glue the shell to the handprint.
5. Bend the pipe cleaners for the antenna and glue (or tape).
6. Glue on googly eyes.