

Third Grade Manatee Curriculum—Lesson 1: Starting to Learn about Manatees¹

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Description

Students will raise questions about manatees and discuss what they already know. Students will start to learn about manatee biology.

Objective

By the end of the activity, students will be able to list at least three characteristics of manatees.

Standards Addressed

Common Core—CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.4a; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.10

You Will Need

- Posterboard or electronic way to prepare a KWL chart that can be referenced later in the school year. (KWL = know, want, learn [i.e., what I *know*, what I *want* to know, and what I *learned*])
- Single copy or class set of *Sam the Sea Cow* (ISBN-10: 0802773737; ISBN-13: 978-0802773739)
- A copy of *Sam the Sea Cow* worksheet for each student

Strategy

1. Create a KWL chart. Have students suggest items to fill in under K and W (L will be completed later in Lesson 14). Post this chart in the classroom to refer to during future manatee lessons.
2. Either have students read *Sam the Sea Cow* individually, or read it to the class as a group.
3. Have students complete the *Sam the Sea Cow* worksheet.

1. This document is VM204, one of a series of the Veterinary Medicine—Large Animal Clinical Sciences Department, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date July 2015. For more lessons in the *Third Grade Manatee Curriculum* series, go to http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_series_third_grade_manatee_workbook. Visit the EDIS website at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.
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Sam the Sea Cow **Worksheet**

1. Sam is a sea cow. Another word for sea cow is *M* _ _ _ _ _ .
2. Even though Sam lives in the water what does he need to breathe? _____
(Hint: What do you need to breathe?)
3. What do we call a baby manatee? _____
4. When Sam was a tiny baby, what did his mother feed him? _____
5. Sam's tail is called his *P* _ *D D* _ _ .
6. Sam's arms are called *F L* _ *P P* _ _ *S*.
7. Sam lived at the Seaquarium for a year. He was then let go in a river. Many manatees go to this river in the winter. What is the name of the river? _____

Sam the Sea Cow (Answer Key)

1. Sam is a sea cow. Another word for sea cow is ***MANATEE***.
2. Even though Sam lives in the water what does he need to breathe? ***AIR*** (Hint: What do you need to breathe?)
3. What do we call a baby manatee? ***CALF***
4. When Sam was a baby, what did his mother feed him?
MILK
5. Sam's tail is called his ***PADDLE***.
6. Sam's arms are called ***FLIPPERS***.
7. Sam lived at the Seaquarium for a year. He was then let go in a river. Many manatees go to this river in the winter. What is the name of the river? ***CRYSTAL RIVER***