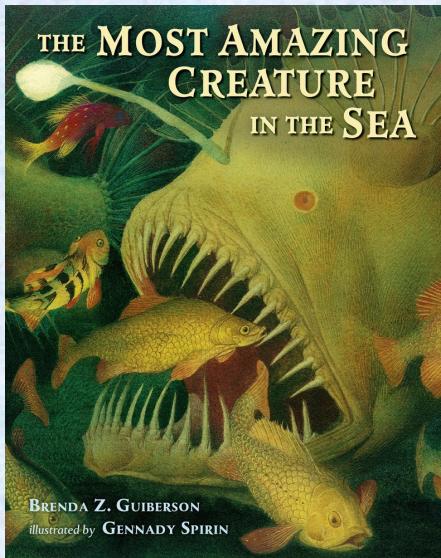


SPLISH! SPLASH! DIVE!

Classroom Questions and Activities for *The Most Amazing Creature in the Sea*



The Most Amazing Creature in the Sea

Brenda Z. Guiberson

Illustrations by Gennady Spirin

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1) Before reading the book, have students predict some of the creatures and how they will survive. After reading, make a list of survival methods used in the book.

2) Have students write a short poem about their favorite creature from the book and research it on the internet or in other books. Create a card with the poem on one side and a new fact, or facts, learned about their choice on the other side. Trade with other students.

3) Use bright colored papers to create a coral reef filled with plants and creatures.

Use darker papers to create a deeper environment. Save a bright yellow sheet for light that could be coming from creatures in the murky darkness.

4) Crumple up paper scraps to the size of a krill. Use them to fill a paper basket and then count the paper krill. Try to imagine how many filled wastebaskets it would take to reach the 40 million krill eaten every day by a blue whale. How big are zombie worms and what do they eat?

- 5) Plan an adventure into the deep ocean. What kind of equipment will you need? Imagine that you discover a new creature. Is it a fish or cephalopod that can stay underwater? Or is it a reptile or mammal that must come to the surface to breathe? What kind of adaptations, or special features, does it have to survive? Write up a paragraph with the

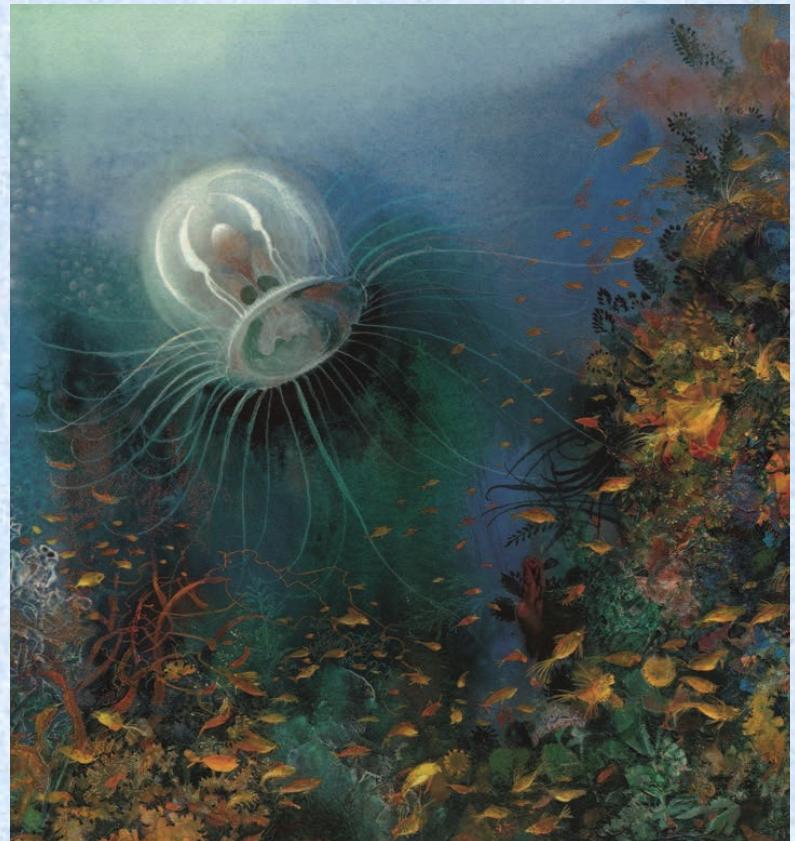
creature bragging about its most amazing features.



- 6) Locate a recent news article about the ocean. What does it say about the health of the ocean? How do people affect the ocean?

- 7) Fill a glass with water and stir in a bit of salt. Leave it in a warm, sunny window and check to see what is left after evaporation. Less than 3% of the world's supply water is fresh water, with no salt and ready to drink.

- 8) Fill a glass jar with water and put a fresh piece of lettuce in it. Hold a lid over the jar opening and turn the jar over. Put it upside down into a bowl of water. Carefully slip off the lid so you don't lose too much water in the jar. Leave the project in a bright place. In about two or three hours, bubbles will start to appear. The bubbles are oxygen. From this project, name one reason why the ocean is important to people.



Extra credit: Research the remora, one of the helpers. How does it attach to sharks? Research the cleaner wrasse. Who do they clean beside the sunfish? How big are zombie worms and what do they eat?



Add vocabulary: Find these words in the book.

burrow

expand

transparent

secrete

dangle

appendages

colossal

dorsal