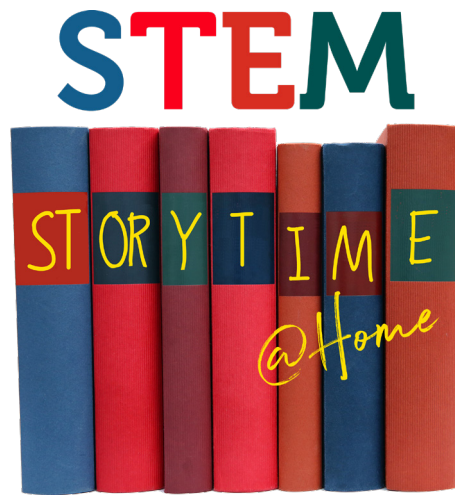


STEM




north
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Welcome to STEM Storytime @ Home!

STEM Storytime is a program for preschool aged children and their caretakers. Like our other Early Childhood programs, STEM Storytime introduces important elements of prekindergarten learning with and a live story presentation from a member of the museum's education team. This program provides preschoolers with new science and nature based concepts and vocabulary using the familiar tools of storytime and hands on activities to further enhance new learning opportunities.

This month's story and activities are focused on marine life using the book *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni.



ACTIVITY #1

Wax Resist Painting Activity

Recreate your favorite underwater scene from Swimmy using this fun art technique at home!

Supplies You Will Need

- Wax crayons
- Water Color Paints
- Water
- Paintbrush
- White Construction Paper

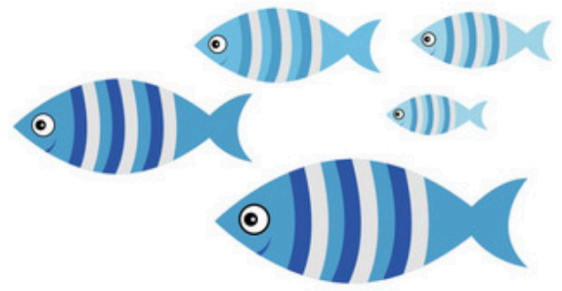
Directions

1. Start by drawing an underwater scene with your crayons featuring Swimmy. It could be a scene from the story, or a new adventure. You could even recreate the story in your own words using several pieces of paper. Using bright neon colors or white crayons will make your drawing pop out in a fantastic way!
2. Next, we will make your crayon drawings resemble the art techniques used by Leo Leonni for the pictures in Swimmy.
3. Take your paint brush and begin to apply ocean color paint to your drawing. Think about using darker and lighter blues, greens and whites to create the water.
4. Let your pictures dry and consider creating your own book out of the work!

ACTIVITY #2

Swimmy Vocabulary

Learn about the creatures of the sea that Swimmy encounters on his journey.



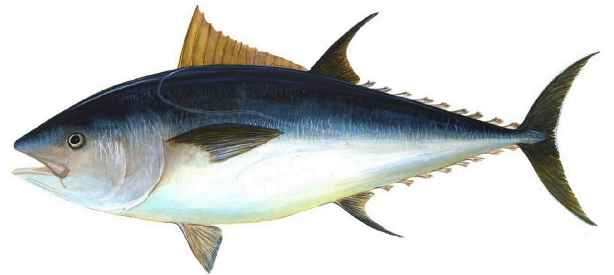
Sea Anemone

About the size of a teacup, Sea Anemones are a close relative of coral and jellyfish. Anemones spend most of their time attached to rocks on the sea bottom or on coral reefs waiting for fish to pass close enough to get caught in their tentacles which contain poisonous venom!



Tuna

The Atlantic Bluefin Tuna is one of the largest, fastest, and most gorgeously colored of all the world's fishes. Their torpedo-shaped, streamlined bodies are built for speed and swimming great distances. Tuna's color of blue with a white and silver colored body helps them keep camouflaged in the deep blue of the sea. Tuna can grow in length to over 6 feet which means they may be as tall as grown-ups in your family!



Eel

They may look like a snake, but Eels are actually fish! Although most do not have scales, they do have gills and use dorsal fins to swim through the water. Eels love to hide out in caves, rock crevices and burrow in the sand. Some species of eels can grow to be 13 feet long!



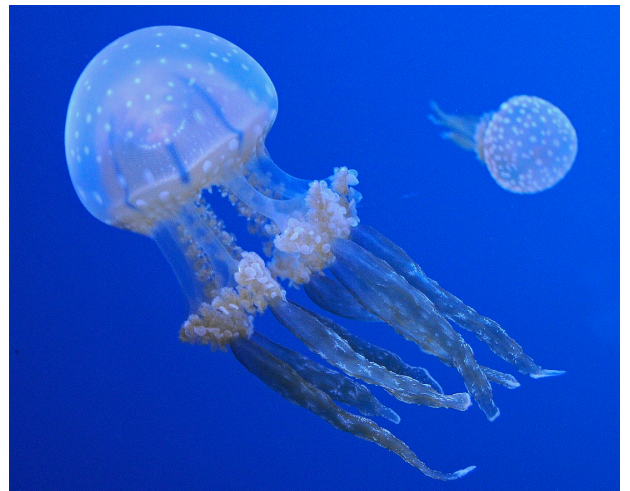
Lobster

Lobsters are actually closely related to grasshoppers and tarantulas. Lobsters can live to be 100 years old and are usually categorized as either Spiny or Clawed. Spiny lobsters do not have claws but they have very large antennae. Lobsters have been known to grow up to 3 feet long!



Jellyfish

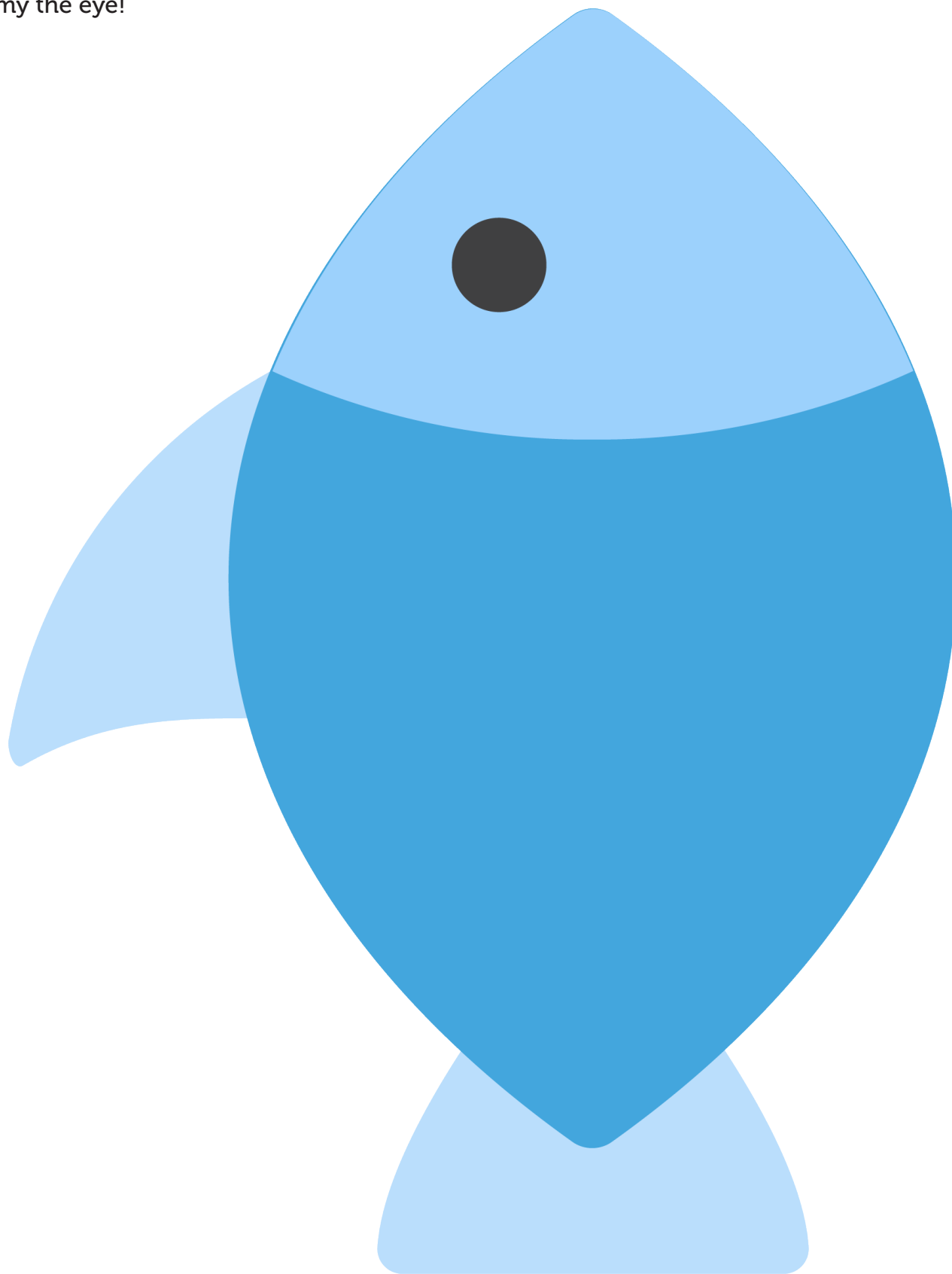
Jellyfish have no heart, eyes, brain or bones! They are made up of a jelly like body and tentacles with stinging cells attached. A jellyfish's mouth is located in the center of its body and is used not only to eat, but to blast water out of to propel it through the water like a water rocket!



ACTIVITY #3

Swim as a School

Recreate Swimmy and his fish friends swimming together as one giant fish using your goldfish crackers. Choose a different color cracker for Swimmy and the other fish. Remember to make Swimmy the eye!



ACTIVITY #3

Swimmy Math Activity

Supplies You Will Need

- Bag of Multicolor Goldfish Crackers
- Pair of Dice

Directions

1. Have your child practice counting by creating different sized schools of fish as we saw in the story. Roll the dice to determine how many fish will swim together. Place your fish in one of the circles provided.
2. Use the different colors of crackers to represent different types of fish in the ocean.

