

Sea Watch Investigator Task

I wonder which Whales and Dolphins live in our seas?



Objective - To use geographical mapping skills to locate and map cetaceans in the U.K.



Resources - Atlases with U.K maps, U.K map worksheets photocopied onto A3, photo-cards of cetaceans, mini photos of cetaceans for maps, Sea Watch web-site links.



National Curriculum Targets and Key Skills

Geography KS1

Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

Geographical enquiry and skills -

- 1a. ask geographical questions
- 2a. use geographical vocabulary
- 2c. use globes, maps and plans at a range of scales
- 2d. use secondary sources of information (e.g. photographs)

Knowledge and understanding of places -

- 3b. identify and describe where places are (e.g. position on a map)

Mathematics (Framework)

Understanding shape

Year 2

Follow and give instructions involving position, direction and movement.

PSHE

Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

Preparing to play an active role as citizens -

- 2e. to realise that people and other living things have needs, and that they have responsibilities to meet them.

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What to do -

1. Give children the copies of the U.K maps and ask them to find the equivalent page in their atlases.
2. Children locate and label where they live. Discuss if they have been on holiday to any coastal areas and locate them on their maps.
3. Locate and label oceans and seas surrounding the U.K.
4. Hand out the photos of the cetaceans. Explain to children that whales, dolphins and porpoise are collectively called cetaceans. Discuss the names of the cetaceans.
5. Do children recognise the names of any of them? Have any been lucky enough to see any?
6. Read the information together about where the cetaceans may be spotted and in pairs children locate the areas on their maps, using the atlases. *Explain to children that the animals may also be found in other areas and that these are not isolated to the ones mentioned.*
7. Using either the mini-photos or a key, children to mark on their maps where the cetaceans are found.
8. Discuss whether there is a pattern to the location of cetaceans in the U.K.

There are also downloadable sheets of Whales and Dolphins in the U.K. on the web-site, including photos – http://www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk/docs/SpeciesID_British_Isles1.pdf

As an extension activity or for homework, children could find which of these species is resident or a visitor to our waters.