

Young Oceanographers Overview

Young Oceanographers is designed to fill the gap for older primary students who aren't quite ready for the academic structure of General Science. As with the other Young Science classes, the format will be very hands-on with lots of labs and activities. The homework will be minimal. It shouldn't take more than 30 minutes each week to complete.

Living in Florida will make this class extra special as we learn about the ocean, sea life and origins from a Creation perspective. We will study a little bit of physics as we study ocean waves; geology as we study the ocean floor, chemistry as we study seawater and bioluminescence; microbiology as we study phytoplankton, and of course biology as we study some of the amazing creatures that live in and around the ocean. Young Oceanographers will be primarily a nature study course and we will bounce around to keep things fun and interesting with the main goal being to encourage a love of learning and appreciating science as a way to get to know our great Creator better.

We will meet for a total of 30 weeks on Mondays between August and April. The last 3-4 weeks of class will be the presentation of the student's research project. Each student will choose an "ocean" topic to study a little and make a very short (5-10 minutes) and simple presentation to the class. They may need a little help in using the internet and of course the library is still a good resource for learning, but this is something that the students will put together . . . I don't want to put a burden on the moms to complete their project.

There is no textbook for this class but the students will receive a homework packet with a few pages of reading and a homework sheet.

Even though I hope to make this class lots of fun, it will be a "real" class and I won't be set up to take care of any more students than the ones who are enrolled. For example, it would be hard for little ones not to want to take part in some of our hands-on activities so you may need to entertain your younger ones in another area of the church. The church has a large room we use as a study hall that has tables and chairs. There is also a large grass parking lot and a small playground. Moms are always welcome to stay but if there are several moms they sometimes find it hard not to chat =)

The children will get to use my microscopes and some dissection instruments and we will go over the proper use of this equipment.

Your child will need to be prepared for class with the following:

A Blank Notebook

This can be one of those black and white composition books NOT the ones that are spiral bound (these would not hold up through what we will put them through). **These will be our laboratory notebooks and they need to come to class every week. Put their name and phone # on the inside cover.**

Write Young Oceanographers Lab Book on the outside. Have them bring this and a pencil / colored pencils as we will spend a little time drawing in them every class. We will have them paste in a "lab report" that I have already typed up for them.

Pencil /small package of colored pencils

For use with above

Two Fun Paper Notebooks with 2 Pockets

This will be what they will use to turn in their homework. Get the ones that are really cheap during the back to school sales...the ones with pockets and animals, flowers, etc on the outside. You may want several as they get "dog-eared". **Write Young Oceanographers and their name on the front cover.** Also, write your phone # and e-mail address please.

3-Ring Binder

They will keep this at home. It is for their activity papers to stay nice and organized. You will need to hole-punch their homework.

Moms . . . you are always welcome to visit class. Please contact me with questions or concerns at tellthetruthinsci@gmail.com

You are ultimately your child's teacher and sometimes adjustments have to be made to suit individual students. . . this is not a problem! My goal is to help them not only LOVE science but to love learning; remembering that each student has unique learning styles, strengths and weaknesses.