

Let's dive under the sea with these activities picked just for you!

Paper Bag Jellyfish: You will need some lunch-sized paper bags, different colors of paint, and some stick-on googly eyes. Let your child paint the bags any colors they like and then, after they dry, help them cut or tear the bottom of the bags into strips to look like jellyfish tentacles. Add some googly eyes and your child has some fun, and safe, jellyfish puppets to play with!

Ocean Water: You and your child can make ocean water sensory bottles using empty water bottles, small seashells, plastic sea animals, pebbles or stones, and sand. First, pour a small bottle of baby oil into the water bottle and drop in any combination of sea items. Next, mix a small amount of blue gel food coloring with some water. Finally, help your child pour in the colored water through a funnel. Secure the lid with using a glue gun or very strong tape. Have your child start to tilt the bottle and they will see what happens when oil and water come in contact with each other—they don't mix! They do, however, make fun waves and bubbles. Sensory bottles are fun to watch as well as serve as a calming toy for your child.

Ocean Sand: For this activity you will need some type of shallow tray, 1 cup of fine salt, blue gel food coloring, and a Ziploc bag. Pour the salt into the Ziploc bag and add a few drops of the food coloring. Zip up the bag and let your child mix the rice and food coloring by squishing and squeezing the bag. Once it is fully covered, pour the salt into the tray. Add in some of the leftover sea life items from when you made the sensory bottoms to make it look like the sand at the bottom of the ocean. Have your child run their fingers all through the salt/sand and then challenge them to draw letters or shapes, or pictures in the mixture!

Fish Mobile: Have your child press their fingers in small amounts of paint and cover a few pieces of paper with the prints. Cut large fish patterns out of the fingerprint paper and staple patterns together leaving one side open for your child to fill with small balls of paper and then staple the open end. Poke a hole in the top, string some fish wire through each completed fish and help your child choose a place to hang the school of fish where they can enjoy watching them swim around!

Created exclusively for Books By The Bushel, LLC by Pamela B Connor, Ed.D.