

Holiday House LESSON PLAN

DIVE IN

Swim with Sea Creatures at Their Actual Size

by Roxie Munro

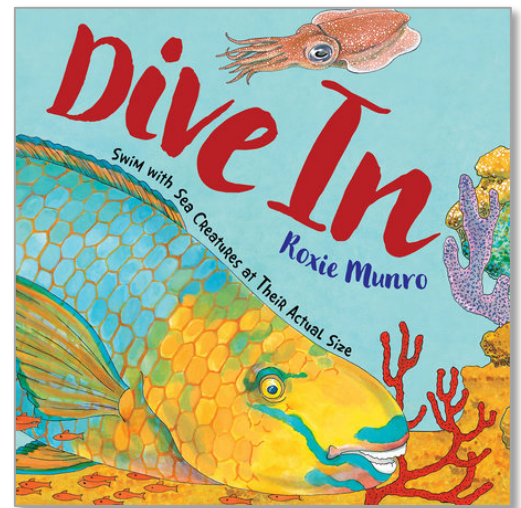


“Replete with information and vibrant images . . . the reading experience feels like a trip to an aquarium (or, better yet, to a reef).”—*School Library Journal*

ABOUT THE BOOK

Splash into one of the world’s most alluring—and threatened—habitats, without getting your feet wet.

Without traveling any farther than your bookshelf, encounter exquisite coral reef creatures in this clever introduction to underwater life! Brightly illustrated at true-to-life size, *Dive In* introduces more than twenty undersea creatures. From the brilliantly colored rainbow parrotfish to the venomous southern stingray, follow the path of a scuba diver discovering the many creatures living in a coral reef—including a huge gatefold spread featuring a massive reef shark.



9780823443352 • Ages 7–10

Guided Reading Level: Q

Next Generation Science Standards:

4-PS3: Energy, 4-LS1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes, 4-ESS1: Earth’s Place in the Universe, 4-ESS2: Earth’s Systems, 4-ESS3-2: Earth and Human Activity

BEFORE READING

1. Discuss the title and the front and back cover illustrations.
2. What does “dive in” mean literally and figuratively?
3. Open the front and back covers. Why do you think this is considered a “wraparound” or “continuous cover”?
4. Why do you think the author created this type of cover for *Dive In*?
5. How do the cover illustrations enhance meaning and tone?
6. Predict what the book will be about.
7. Discuss the text. Will this book be fiction or informational text?
8. Skim the interior of the book to identify the setting and the structure. Discuss.
9. What is a coral reef?
10. Create a KWL chart on coral reefs.



What I Know About Coral Reefs	What I Want to Learn	What I Learned

WORD WORK: Introduce Students to New Vocabulary from the Story

- Why is it important to understand new vocabulary when you read? How do you figure out the meaning of unknown words when reading a text?
- How does the author call out challenging vocabulary? Ask students to skim the book to find new vocabulary words. HINT: The new vocabulary words are in *italics*.
- Invite students to find all the italicized new vocabulary words in the book and write down what they think the word means based on context clues. After reading the story, they can do further research on each word and add new information (use activity sheet on page 4).

DURING READING

- Read the book aloud to the group.
- While you read, students should think about the following topics:
 - The symbiotic relationship between the creatures in the book
 - Why coral reefs are described as the “rainforest of the ocean”
 - How coral reefs are formed
 - Where they are found
 - The different kinds of reefs
 - Where the creatures shown in this book live
 - Why the author wrote this book
- As you read, take notes on each of the 29 creatures in the book. Include nicknames, behaviors, and the physical characteristics and adaptations that keep the creature alive.

AFTER READING

- Go back to the KWL chart and complete the “What I Learned” section.
- Some of the creatures in the book do not have nicknames. Create a nickname for one of those creatures.
- Draw a picture of the creature, identifying the characteristics that you used to determine its nickname.
- How does the author use figurative language, particularly similes, in the story? A *simile* is a comparison using “like” or “as.”



RESEARCH & ACTIVITIES

- Describe the living conditions coral reefs need to develop and survive. Identify different types of coral and describe the specific living conditions they need to survive.
- Describe the relationship between the structure of coral animals and its function for survival in the coral reef habitat as colonies.
- Explain the important roles coral colonies play in a marine environment. Why is it important to protect coral reefs?
- Plan and design a billboard letting people know this is important. Where would your billboard be located? What message does it reveal? How do you get that message across to the community using words and graphics?

Coral reefs are in danger. Do some research and list four cause-and-effect relationships contributing to the decline in coral reef health.

Cause	Effect

Find four cause-and-effect relationships that explain why it is so important to save this ecosystem.

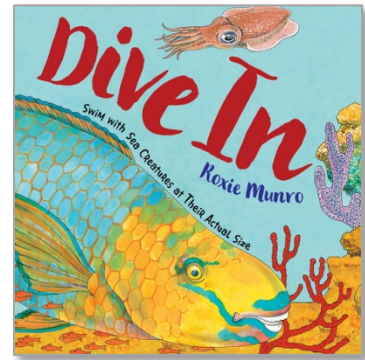
Cause	Effect

Guide written by Marla Conn, MS, Ed., reading/literacy specialist and educational consultant.

6.2020



Name _____



Awesome Vocabulary

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	Pre-Reading	After Reading
Crustacean		
Territorial		
Monogamous		
Indigenous		
Venomous		
Invertebrate		
Vertebrate		
Mollusk		
Predator		
Camouflage		
Cartilage		
Echinoderm		

To read all of Roxie Munro's books published by Holiday House, check out your local library or bookstore.

