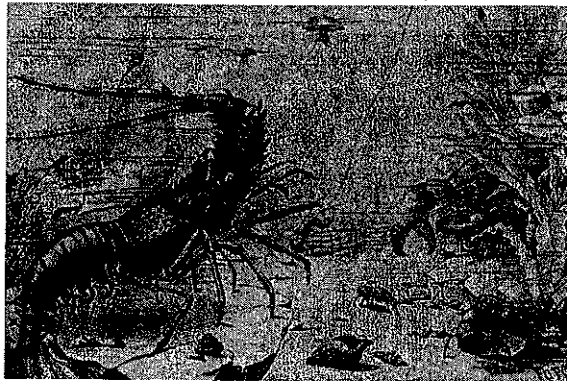


## *Sea Animals*



- Go to your public, school, and classroom libraries and check your home for any books about various sea animals and sea life. Collect all the different materials you can on this topic and bring them to school. Read and research all you can about sea animals and sea life. Keep a bibliography on all the books you read and record them on your "What You Can See at Sea" chart.
- Select one of your favorite sea animals. Examine several board and shape books published for young children. Using several of these as a model, write and illustrate a fictional shape book about a sea animal. Keep in mind some of the elements that appeal to young children such as rhyming text, interesting textures, things to manipulate, and predictable patterns of language that can be memorized.
- Make a mobile that includes at least six different sea animals. You want your mobile to make you feel as if you are lying on the floor of the ocean looking up at the creatures as they move overhead. Consider a wide range of materials (wire, felt, papier-mâché, glittery fabrics, origami) and select the one(s) that are the best match for your project.
- Visit a tropical fish store. Purchase some supplies to be used in setting up a small aquarium. Create your own care booklet for your aquarium, fish and aquatic plants so that someone else could use it to take care of the aquarium. Add a journal section and encourage other people to make notes, comments, pictures, and poems about the fish as they observe the aquarium.

- Research the food chain that exists in the ocean. Create a mural that depicts the ocean food chain. Use a variety of materials to create your mural.
- Make a flipbook of a leaping whale. Study different types of flipbooks. Study different species of whales and pictures of whales engaged in different activities and select the best whale picture to use in your flipbook.
- Create a chart of the three zones of the ocean. Explain what each zone is and the life forms that exist at each zone.
- Create your own "Whale" game. Include a game board, playing pieces and instructions. Teach your classmates the rules of the game and show them how the game is played. Consider sending a copy of your game to a whale conservation organization for them to use in their education department.
- Arrange a visit to a local aquarium or marine park. If you live in an area that does not have access to a large aquarium or marine park, try taking a virtual tour on the Internet. Many of the aquariums and marine parks around the country have interactive web sites that allow you to travel through their exhibits learning more about the sea life they support and care for.

