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| Date | Class level Junior Infants and Senior Infants | Subject Geography |
| Strand Natural Environments | Strand Unit The Local Natural Environment. | |
| Title Observing Features of the Local Beach. | | |
| Objective(s) The aim of the lesson plan is for children to become aware of, explore and discuss some aspects of natural environments, such as the local beach, which is in the immediate locality of the school. | | |
| Skills Required A sense of place and space; Picturing places; Observing, questioning. | | |
| Learning objectives | | Learning activities |
| <p>The child will be enabled to:</p> <p>Associate items with the seashore.</p> <p>Engage in meaningful discussion about these items.</p> <p>Classify materials as natural or manmade.</p> <p>Connect real life objects with pictures of objects.</p> <p>Engage in a sorting activity and decide on their own sorting criteria.</p> | | <p>Talk and Discussion: Tell the class that today, you are going to talk about a very special place but they will need to guess where you are talking about.</p> <p>On a low table place some natural and some man made articles which you would associate with the beach such as buckets and spades, seashells, sand, pebbles, driftwood, salt and water.</p> <p>Elicit the answer 'beach' or 'seashore' from the class. Identify how far away the beach or seashore is from the school.</p> <p>Spend some time discussing how each of these items is connected to the beach. The pupils are given the opportunity to come forward to touch the materials and comment on their size, texture etc.</p> <p>Photos and Artefacts: Place some photos of the beach on the Interactive White Board. Allow the children to circle the items from the table on the board in a matching activity.</p> <p>Classify the materials in hula hoops as naturally occurring or man-made materials</p> |

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| | <p>through discussion with the class.</p> <p>Collaborative learning: Divide the class into pairs. Give each pair a number of shells. These shells can be shells from the beach or often shells can be bought in arts and crafts shops. Also distribute a sheet with two circles on it to simulate sorting and classifying.</p> <p>Allow the pairs to sort and classify the shells into the hula hoops according to criteria of their own choosing. This may be colour, type, texture etc. The teacher circulates the room speaking to each pair about their sorting criteria.</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Seashells</p> <p>Photographs of the beach (attached)</p> <p>Hula hoops (2)</p> <p>Buckets, Spades</p> <p>Driftwood</p> <p>Sorting Sheet (attached)</p> |
| <p>Differentiation Higher and Lower order questioning. Differentiate group activities and roles to account of individual needs, by support, task. Mixed ability pairing.</p> | |
| <p>Assessment Teacher Observation and Questioning</p> | |
| <p>Linkage and Integration Maths: Sorting and classifying SPHE: Me and the world around me Oral Language: The children use oral language to describe what they are seeing and discuss textures etc.</p> | |



Sorting Sheet

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Photos of the Beach and items you might find there

