

Learning possibilities

Text: Wild, M 1989, *There's a sea in my bedroom*, Puffin Books, Victoria.

Engage

- Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover. If not use the suggested video link in the resources box and watch the story together.
- Step 2. Read/watch the story and encourage your child/children to join in.
- Step 3. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. What did David like collecting? (seashells)
 2. What could he hear inside the shell (the sound of the sea)
 3. Why did David feel sorry for the sea? (because it was trapped in the shell)
 4. What did David whisper (come out sea, come out sea, I won't hurt you)

Respond

Look back through the story and talk about some of the words in the story that may be less familiar to your child/children and explain the meanings.

Rare word	Synonym	Rare word	Synonym
frightened	scared, afraid	growly	howl, roar, snarl
gobbled	eat very quickly	trapped	stuck, locked in
monster	huge, big, imaginary creature	whisper	speak in a soft voice
soft	smooth, silky	foam	froth, bubbles

Extend

- Provide a quiet play space with a sand tray, shells and water spray bottle for children to dampen the sand. If you don't have sand you can use soil from the garden, stones and leaves. Your child/children might like to organise the objects into patterns or make designs using their fingers in the sand/soil.
- Talk to your child/children about being at the beach and what waves sound like as they crash on the shore. Use the link in the Resources box to listen to the sounds of ocean waves.

Resources

Rhyme

'Five little seashells' (finger rhyme)

Five little seashells lying on the shore,
Swish! went the waves, and then there were four.
Four little seashells, cozy as could be,
Swish! went the waves, and then there were three.
Three little seashells, all pearly new,
Swish! went the waves, and then there were two.
Two little seashells, lying in the sun,
Swish! went the waves, and then there was one.
One little seashell, left all alone,
I whispered 'Shhh' as I took it home.

Website

Pre-K Fun, *Beach Songs, Poems, & Fingerplays*
http://www.prekfun.com/A-F/Beach/Beach_Songs.htm

Funshine Blog, *Sea foam sensory play*,
<https://funshineblog.com/2016/05/02/sea-foam-sensory-play/>

Video

There's A Sea In My Bedroom – Margaret Wild, Jane Tanner (YouTube, Ellena Reads)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUrqjX_y2gc

Ocean Waves Relaxation 10 Hours | Soothing Waves Crashing on Beach | White Noise for Sleep (YouTube, Relaxing White Noise)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHPEKLQID4U>

- Invite children to make some sea foam (see Resources box). This experience is best used outside where the table can be wiped down easily. **Safety note:** If your child has any allergies or sensitivities to detergent **do not try** this experience.
- Show your child/children a collection of shells and invite them to explore the textures, shapes and smells. Ask, 'How are these the same?'; 'How are these different?' Some children may not yet be familiar with the word 'different' but will understand difference if framed as 'same/not same'.
- If you have no shells try searching Google images for the term seashells and talk with your child about what they see.