



6 by 6 Interactive Spaces: Blue Sea

Guidelines: There may be more than 1 activity or sign under each skill area. Signs should be brief, but explain what to do and why it's important.

SKILL AREA – HAVE FUN WITH BOOKS

- Signs: (with monkey graphic)
- *Pretend play is the way young kids master symbolic representation, which soon becomes necessary for all academic coursework.*

SKILL AREA – TALK, TALK, TALK

1. Activity – HANGING FISH

- Sign(s): (with toucan graphic)
- Look up!

Describe the different fish hanging from the ceiling. Talk about their colors, shapes, and sizes. *Describing objects using rare or unusual words helps build a rich vocabulary.*

- Supplies:
 - Inflatable Hanging Fish
 - Fishing Line (In bag with Inflatable Fish and Sticky Notes)

2. **Activity** – FISH OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES

- Signs: (toucan)

Which fish are the same? Which fish are different?

Use the fishing pole to put the fish in the correct bowl; small, medium or large. How many will fit in each bowl?

- Supplies:
 - Various colors and sizes of laminated magnetic fish
 - (3) Plastic Fish Bowls (Small, Medium and Large)
 - (2) Magnetic Fishing Poles

SKILL AREA – LOOK FOR LETTERS EVERYWHERE

1. **Activity** – FISHING FOR LETTERS

- Sign(s): (with peacock graphic)

What shape did you catch? Does it look like a letter? Can you find that same shape on the lettered fish?

Recognizing different shapes and sizes is the early steps to learning letters. Playing a matching game is a great way to practice their skills.

- Supplies:
 - 2 fishing poles
 - Set of fish with various letter shapes for matching (Letters are not exactly as they look so that children will begin to recognize the shape, not necessarily the letter at first.)

2. **Activity** – OCEAN IN A BAG

- Sign (peacock):

Press the plastic with your fingers to make shapes or letters in the gel. You can also make fish shapes by using the ocean stamps.

Recognizing shapes helps children learn to recognize letters. Find fun ways to help your child learn the alphabet and shapes of letters.

- Supplies:
 - Gel Bags
 - Rubbery ocean stamps

3. **Activity** – HIDDEN IN THE SAND

- Sign (peacock)

Can you find the pictured objects in the sand without looking?

Matching words and pictures to real objects helps kids learn that print has meaning.

Doing this by using their sense of touch helps reinforce nerve connections in the brain.

- Supplies:
 - Plastic Bin
 - Laminated pictures of sea-related items with descriptive words
 - Shells
 - Scoop and Play Set

SKILL AREA – NOTICE PRINT ALL AROUND

1. Activity – NAME THE FISH

- Sign(s): (with kangaroo graphic)
- Name the fish.

Write a name for our make-believe fish pets in the bowl on a sticky note. Place the note on the walls near the large fish bowl.

As you child writes (or you help), say the letters and the words aloud. This helps children know that spoken words can be represented in print.

- Supplies:
 - Fish pictures inside the large fish bowl
 - Sticky Notes

2. Activity – PREWRITING

- Sign: (kangaroo)
- Stencil Writing.

Put a pencil in the guide then trace the letters onto a piece of paper.

We read and write English from left-to-right but scanning in a straight line is not a natural process. This activity lets children re-create the motions they'll use to form letters when they begin to write.

- Supplies:
 - (6) Stencils
 - Crayons or Pencils (You provide)
 - Scissors (For older children to cut out their Stencil Creations)

SKILL AREA – TELL STORIES ABOUT EVERYTHING

1. Activity – STACKING A SANDWICH

- Sign(s): (with turtle graphic)
- Stacking a sandwich

Spin the dial and see what sea creature you have to try to catch in the water. Stack them to build a sandwich.

Putting items in order (sequencing) helps reinforce the concept of beginning, middle, and end; those concepts help improve reading comprehension.

- Supplies:

- Plastic Clear Bin

- Seafood Stacking Foam Pieces

Alternate Activity: You can play the game as is, or you can use the plastic clear bin and fill it with water, use the scoop and play nets and the children can fish for the foam shapes and then build their sandwich.

2. Activity – RETELL THE STORY

- Sign: (turtle graphic)

Retell the story of *Blue Sea*

One fish fits through all the holes, one fish may fit through one hole, and one fish may be too big for any hole. **OUCH!**

SKILL AREA – TAKE TIME to RHYME

1. Activity: RHYME TIME

*Have you ever been swimming on a bright sunny day?
With all the little fishes swimming in and out the bay,
With their hands in their pockets and their pockets on their pants,
And all the little fishes do a hootchie-koatchie dance.*



BLUE SEA-EARLY LITERACY KIT

CONTENTS

INCLUDED

RETURNED

___ Magnetic Fishing Puzzle	___
___ Sea Life Chunky Puzzle	___
___ Sea Life Puzzle	___
___ Fish Color Mix and Match Puzzle	___
___ (6) Pre-Writing Stencils	___
___ Ocean Gel Mat	___
___ Ocean Stamps (For use with Gel Mat)	___
___ (2) Magnetic Fishing Poles (Use with Fish of all Shapes and Sizes and Fishing for Letters)	___
___ (1) Hardback Copy of <i>Blue Sea</i> (not-for-checkout)	___
___ (1) Paperback Copy of <i>Blue Sea</i> (not-for-checkout)	___
___ Scoop and Play Fishing Set	___
___ Assortment of Shells (Use with Scoop and Play Fishing Activity)	___
___ Pictures/Words of Sea Life (Use with Scoop and Play Sand Activity)	___
___ (4) Laminated Fish and Hole Templates (For Retelling the Story Activity)	___
___ Laminated Magnetic Fish (For use with Fish of all Shapes and Sizes)	___
___ 5 lbs. Clean Sand in Storage Bag (For Use with Scoop and Play)	___
___ Clear Plastic Sand Bin (For use with Scoop and Play Activity)	___
___ (6) Inflatable Hanging Fish	___
___ Disinfectant Wipes	___
___ Large Plastic Fish Bowl (For use with Fish of All Shapes and Sizes and Name the Fish)	___
___ Medium Sized Plastic Fish Bowl	___
___ Small Sized Fish Bowl	___
___ 12 pack of Sticky Notes (For use with Name the Fish Activity)	___

Please clean all toys and puzzles with the provided disinfectant wipes. Thank you.

What you need to provide.

Pencils or Crayons

Scissors

Baskets