



JUNE 8TH

LESSON PLANS

2026



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INVENT A BLUE JOB

Discover the blue job that only you could do - and design your place in the future of ocean conservation.



INVENT A BLUE JOB

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Help students imagine a future where ocean conservation is a career available to everyone
- Encourage creative thinking about the range of skills and environments connected to the ocean
- Help students begin to see themselves as future ocean professionals
- Build a sense of ownership and possibility around blue careers

AGE GROUP

5-7, 7-11 and 11+

MATERIALS REQUIRED

Worksheets

Coloured pens, pencils or markers for poster-making

DURATION

45 minutes

CONTEXT FOR EDUCATORS

The world of ocean conservation is diverse. It spans science, law, art, journalism, community organising, education, technology, policy, farming, filmmaking, and so much more - and every single one of those roles matters. Yet somehow, 'marine biologist' has become the default answer when we ask young people what an ocean career looks like. That narrow picture means many students - particularly those whose skills, backgrounds, or communities aren't represented in that image - never see a place for themselves in ocean conservation at all.

This lesson is about blowing that picture wide open. No matter what a student is good at, no matter where in the world they're from, there is a role for them in protecting the ocean. And many of the roles the ocean will need in the future haven't even been invented yet.

Students will invent their own blue job and design a poster advertising it - like a job advert from the future. The five prompts on the worksheet guide them through building out their role before they put it on the page.



INVENT A BLUE JOB

ACTIVITY

Ask the class: what jobs connected to the ocean do you already know about? Take a few answers, then ask: what jobs do you think the ocean might need that don't exist yet?

Explain that today each student is going to invent their own blue job and create a poster for it - like a job advert from the future. Hand out the worksheets. Walk students through the four prompts one at a time, giving them time to think and write before moving on:

1. What will your blue job do for the ocean?

Think about what you'd be doing - protecting, discovering, fixing, building, growing, exploring, creating...

2. What special skills will you need to have for this job?

What knowledge, talents, or abilities would make someone brilliant at this role?

3. What would an average day look like?

Walk us through a typical day in your future blue job. Where are you, who's with you, and what are you doing?

4. What would you call this job?

Give your job a name - the more inventive, the better. What does the title tell people about what you do?

Once students have answered the questions, they can design their poster - a job advert for the future. The aim is to draw a picture of a person doing the job. Finish by creating a gallery of all the artwork and if you have time, ask each student to present their blue job to the class.



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AGE SUGGESTIONS

Younger students -

Focus on the fun and imagination. Encourage wild job titles and creative skills. The emphasis is on the idea that anyone can have a future connected to the ocean.

Older students -

Ask students to think about real challenges the ocean is facing - pollution, overfishing, climate change, biodiversity loss - and design a role that specifically addresses one of them. Ask: is your job something that could actually exist one day? What would it take to make it real?

SHARE YOUR POSTERS WITH US!

Scan or take photos of your worksheets and upload them via your Our Blue profile.



NAME:

SCHOOL:

WHAT WILL YOUR BLUE JOB DO FOR THE OCEAN?

Think about what you'd be doing - protecting, discovering, fixing, building, growing, exploring, creating...

WHAT SPECIAL SKILLS WILL YOU NEED TO HAVE FOR THIS JOB?

What knowledge, talents, or abilities would make someone brilliant at this role?

WHAT WOULD AN AVERAGE DAY LOOK LIKE?

Walk us through a typical day in your future blue job. Where are you, who's with you, and what are you doing?

WHAT WOULD YOU CALL THIS JOB?

Give your job a name - the more inventive, the better. What does the title tell people about what you do?

MY DREAM BLUE JOB

