

## English – Ocean Literacy Principle 7

### *The ocean is largely unexplored*

#### **Ocean Discovery Activity:**

Less than five per cent of the ocean has been explored. And as the ocean comes under more pressure from humans to help sustain our lives, it is an invaluable asset for the future. Many books have been written about ocean exploration, from non-fiction documentary style pieces to science-fiction novels.

This activity gives students the opportunity to review different literacy styles and their effectiveness to inspire the future scientists amongst us. Divide students into small groups. Assign each group a different book about ocean exploration and give them a set amount of time to read the text. When this is complete, ask each group to identify the literary features used to inspire the reader about ocean exploration in the book and how successful they felt this to be. They can then present their work to the rest of the class, expressing and summarising their opinions.

After the presentation, there should be time for questions from other students as part of a structured discussion and the written work could be made into a book for the school library.

#### **Suggested reading list:**

- The Coral Island – R.M. Ballantyne

#### **Activity Learning Objectives:**

Students will review the effectiveness of different literacy styles to enthuse young scientists about ocean exploration. By the end of the activity they will be ready

#### **What you will need:**

- books linked to marine exploration.
- \* Students should be split into small groups and assigned books from the reading list. Make sure you allow plenty of time to read them before the activity

#### **Further work:**

Ask your students to come up with their own short story, poem or descriptive piece of writing about ocean exploration. Narratives could include any of the following themes:

- the future of technology and how this could change ocean exploration
- the effect that humans are having on the ocean and how this may affect the

#### **English links to other Ocean Literacy Principles:**

##### **Principle 1:**

Use their knowledge of the ocean to create pieces of non-fiction writing that clearly depict the differences between the five ocean basins.

##### **Principle 4:**

Invite your students to carry out further research into the importance of the ocean for life on Earth. Use the facts that they have gathered to write a journalistic report or make a short live action or animated film about this topic.