

Down by the Sea (from the recording Down the Do Re Mi)



Activities:

- 1. A Seashore Research:** Find out what lives at the seashore (air, land, and sea). Have each child make one kind of shell, bird, animal, plant, and a picture of themselves. Make a class mural and put the shells, animals, plants, and people... "Down by the Sea". This activity can be expanded to include people's interaction with the sea and caring for the sea.
- 2. Aquarium:** As above, have students make an animal, fish, bird or plant that is part of the ocean. Turn a table upside down and with legs up set it on top of another table. Wrap blue cellophane around the legs. It now looks like an aquarium but in the class we will call it the ocean. Have students come up one at a time and add their plant or fish or bird or other animal into the ocean and give a small report on that fish or etc.
- 3. My Family and Me:** Have the children draw or paint a picture of a place they like to go with their family. Along with the picture, have them make a list of all the specific things they love to do in their special place. My Family and I love to...
- 4. Your Family and You:** Taking a look at someone else's life. Do exercise number two, but, have the children interview one another and write a report about what their friend and the friend's family like to do together. One rule: Stay positive. The writer may not put down the other child or the child's family. The writer may also not put down her or himself. Ex. Susie's family hikes which is great and not boring like my family.
- 5. Down by...(Mrs. William's Room, Lincoln School, the town, etc):** Down by the Sea is a song that looks at all the wonderful parts of the seashore. It is a perspective that can be applied to anywhere. Have the children look carefully at their school or their classroom. List all the special things they can do and see in this environment.
- 6.** Write a version of the song for the mountains, the prairies, the desert... wherever you are located.
- 7.** Where would you LIKE to go? There are so many places in the world to visit...countries, cities, natural wonders, etc. Make a list of places the children would like to visit. Research the places. Have the children write a report, make a travel brochure, or a fictional story, or do an oral presentation about taking a trip to one of these places. What wonderful things would they do, see, hear, taste, and feel?
- 8.** Down By the Sea speaks of a few of the many things people do at the beach. Have the class make up additional verses about other activities. Talk amongst the class members about what might be a good sound to go along with an action.