



wild dog

**Wild Dog Books
Teachers' Notes**

Going To The Ocean

Synopsis

The ocean is a huge body of salty water that covers about 70 per cent of the Earth's surface. The ocean is full of life; from the tiniest plankton to the largest animal on the planet – the Blue Whale. More than half of the ocean is over 3000 metres deep. Scientists estimate that there are about 230,000 known marine species, but perhaps up to ten times that number of unknown species.

Writing style

The *Going To* series has been designed with the needs of very early readers and reluctant readers in mind. Text is succinct and simple, with no more than a few sentences on a page. The large format images relate directly to the text, so young readers have multiple entry points to engaging with the information. There is a brief glossary and Index in the back of the book, which will aid young readers in developing the tools of research and analysis.

Study notes

Themes:

- Climate and terrain
- Species
- Adaptation
- Habits and breeding
- Food, predators and prey
- Biodiversity
- Risk of endangerment

Curriculum link: Society and Environment

Before reading *Going To The Ocean*, look at a world map or globe. Discuss with students the total area of the surface of the earth that is land versus the total area that is water.

Students should research the names of the different oceans and seas. If possible, provide a template map of the earth for students to mark these on.

Curriculum link: Science and Technology/Creative Arts

Students should choose three facts from *Going To The Ocean* that they found surprising or interesting. Turn these facts into a game of trivia and use them with the rest of the class in a game, such as trivia bingo or celebrity head.

Curriculum link: Society and Environment/Creative Arts

Divide the class into groups. Each group should select one animal from *Going To The Ocean*.

Students should create a visual project that can be presented to the whole class. The project should include an image or images of the selected animal, as well as answers to the following questions:

- Where in the world is it found?
- What type of habitat does it live in?
- What does it eat? What is its main prey?
- Where does it spend most of its time?
- How does it reproduce? Does it lay eggs? Where does it lay its eggs? Where does it have its babies?
- How many (approximately) are there in the wild? Is this animal endangered?
- Does the animal have any predators?
- Are there other species similar to this animal? How many related species are there?

Create a poster with a drawing of all of the animals you have learnt about in this book. Under each image, list three facts you have learnt about this animal. Try and include at least one fact about a feature of the Use additional resources or internet research if needed.

Select four images from the book. Try and write an image caption to match each one. Can you tell what the animal might be doing in these images?

Marketing and promotion

Going To The Ocean is part of the *Going To* series, which includes titles such as *Going To The Rainforest*, *Going To The Outback*, *Going To Antarctica*, *Going To The Desert*, *Going To The Poles*, *Going To The Galapagos*, *Going To The Mountains* and *Going To The Grasslands*.