

Oceans

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1. When I Grow Up I want to be a Marine Biologist

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**When I grow up, I want to be something very interesting.
The job I'll do will help a lot of people, and I'll like the work that I do.
Each day will be adventurous, and I'll strive to learn a lot.
Then I'll share what I know and my knowledge will grow.
It's the perfect, perfect job!**

When my family goes on vacation in the summertime, we usually go to the beach. I really like to go scuba diving and look at life underneath the ocean. I think I want to be a marine biologist when I grow up. Besides studying whales, dolphins, or the great white shark, I want to discover new medicines to treat human diseases. I also want to help the endangered animals of the ocean, like the gentle manatee and the large sea turtles.

Now science is important, so I'll study hard when learning about biology.
Experiments in chemistry will help me learn to develop good hypotheses.
Then I'll read and I'll read and I'll read some more, and I'll share just what I learn,
'cause when I grow up I want to be something very interesting.

(Chorus)

Yes, I'll share what I know
and my knowledge will grow. It's the perfect, perfect job! The perfect, perfect job!

2. Adventures by the Ocean

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I see the brilliant ocean. I smell the gentle breeze.
I'm looking for adventure, so I gather all my things.
I think I'll take a fish net, a bucket, and some tools.
For off I go collecting, so I'll wear old tennis shoes.

**Adventures by the ocean with crabs and fish and snails.
I search for little creatures. Who knows what I'll unveil!
I use a magnifying glass to see in great detail
each creature that I gently scoop and put inside my pail.**

A shovel will be needed, and a smaller net to find
the crabs that will be hiding close by the ocean tide.
I'll bring a plastic jar to gather water and small plants.
I'll take it home to look under my microscope's clear glass.

(Chorus)

3. I Need A Sponge To Take A Bath

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**I need a sponge to take a bath. It holds the water well,
for holes and tunnels fill with water as it starts to swell.
Would you believe it was alive? It once lived in the sea.
A sponge it is an animal, a marine biologist told me.**

It's true. Although most bath sponges are made in factories today, sponges are found in the ocean. A sponge is the soft skeleton of an animal, but sponges are very different from other animals. A sponge does not move about to find food, but depends on the surrounding water to provide food and oxygen for it to live.

A sponge it stays in the same place. It doesn't move around.
Through holes, the sponge gets food as water then surrounds.
Pumping tiny plants and oxygen, the sponge gets all it needs;
and ocean sponges help to keep the water nice and clean.

*Actually, the sponge is like a filter. Through holes called **pores**, the water is pumped into the sponge leaving behind tiny plants, animals, and oxygen that the sponge needs to survive.*

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Now crabs and shrimp and little fish they do like to hide,
for sponges make safe places, and good homes they do provide.
They come in different colors. You wouldn't believe the size,
for some sponges are so big that a person could fit inside.

So when I start to take a bath, I take a sponge with me,
remembering the animal that once lived in the sea.
I squeeze the tiny skeleton and dunk it in the tub
and sing my favorite little song, a-rub-a-dub-a-dub!

(Chorus)

4. Save The Sea Turtles

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They live in parts of the ocean where the water is not cold.
They cannot hide their heads inside their shells, I am told.
Their flippers help them dive and swim. They're really quite a sight.
These large reptiles will lay their eggs on the shore at night.
The mother crawls on the beach to find the perfect place,
and digs a hole for her eggs. She wants them to be safe.
And then she'll lay a hundred eggs and hide them in the sand.
When the babies hatch, they pop out and race across the land.

Baby sea turtles hatch after about 10 weeks. They seem to instinctively know to race across the land toward the ocean. They usually hatch at night so they won't be eaten by predators.

**Save the sea turtles. Don't destroy their homes.
With pollution and garbage, they won't be safe to roam.
And don't buy any products made from their precious shells.
Let's protect these animals and keep them safe and well.**

The leatherback sea turtle is the largest of its kind.
It can weigh 350 pounds, a masterful design.
You wouldn't believe what it eats. It only eats one dish.
The leatherback sea turtles prefer only jellyfish.
Marine turtles are endangered so we must beware
of how to help these animals. Their lives we need to spare.
Let's keep our beaches litter free and without bright lights,
so when mothers go to lay their eggs they'll know that it is night.

(Chorus 2x)

5. Manatees are Such Lovable Huge Things

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Have you ever seen the gentle manatee?
It's not a whale, but a mammal with curiosity.
With two front flippers to help it move, it glides close to the shore,
for in warm water manatees like to play and explore.
Manatees like only plants. They're vegetarians.
Eating soft wet grasses, manatees will eat a ton.
Their grinding teeth will wear out, but new teeth will take their place.
For the manatee eats constantly. What a pudgy face.

**For they are manatees, lovable huge things.
Gentle-looking, massive-looking, giant eating machines.
Their pudgy-looking faces, their unusual physique,
makes me want to smack a kiss on their pudgy cheeks.**

Manatees are gentle. They won't hurt anything,
but boats and barges are the manatees' worst enemy.
When wetlands are destroyed because of pollutant chemicals,
they lose their feeding ground because they wash into canals.
Only twelve hundred manatees are left today.

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We must protect and save the homes where they like to stay.
If we're all responsible and help the manatees,
they'll be around and multiply. This I will guarantee.

(Chorus)

6. Male Sea Horses Do Such Amazing Things

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What is the little creature with the monkey-like tail,
clinging to the weeds looking fragile and frail?
It has a kangaroo pouch and a long, cute snout.
It swims standing up as it looks about.

**It is a sea horse, sea horses, swimming in the sea,
changing colors to protect itself from its enemies.
The male sea horse—he does an amazing thing—
he carries and delivers all the babies!**

It really is a fish, though you would never guess,
for most fish qualities it does not possess.
Though it has fins to help it swim around,
it's not a good swimmer, scientists have found.

(Chorus)

Now the sea horse can be red, yellow, white, or green,
depending on the color of its surroundings.
It camouflages well so it won't be seen,
and confuses even its toughest enemy.

(Chorus)

7. The Dolphin Symphony

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Listen to the clicks and whistles; it is perfect harmony.
Listen to the orchestra; it's the dolphin symphony.
They seem to have a special language that is all their own.
They communicate with special noises and with high-pitched tones.
It's called echolocation. It is how a dolphin sees.
It makes special noises in order to see things.
The sounds will bounce off objects, then the dolphin knows
just where to find a tasty fish or a hiding squid below.

**Graceful dolphin jumping in the air,
playing, turning, spinning, whirling—to none you do compare.
You're friendly and real lovable. You have a sweet smile.
Oh, graceful dolphin, you sure have magnificent style.**

The dolphin is a friendly mammal living in the deep blue sea.
They swim in groups in order to catch themselves some tasty meat.
The dolphin is a small "toothed whale," so it likes good meals
of squid and shrimp and crabs and fish and even tasty eels.
Dolphins make good mothers, for they keep their babies close.
If a calf wanders off too far, she'll prod it with her nose.
They often live in families to help raise the little ones,
for dolphins enjoy company and having lots of fun.

(Chorus 2x)

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8. They're Really Blubbery

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They belong to a special group. They are called *pennipeds*,
it means "flipper feet," and they're not underfed.
Their blubber keeps them warm, for the water is ice cold.
They have long, strong tusks, which are teeth, I am told.

**Who is this animal with whiskers on its face?
Who is this animal, a well-known heavyweight?
A walrus with ivory tusks. A walrus, yes, indeed,
with flipper feet and wrinkly skin. They're really blubbery!**

Now, walruses they live in herds. They like to snuggle close.
A mother will kiss her calf right on its little nose.
The mother cow will teach her young when it's time to eat.
They'll dive down deep and find a clam, an appetizing treat.

(Chorus 2x)

9. Blue Whale, Blue Whale

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Blue whales are enormous—the largest animals known.
Some grow as long as 100 feet when they are full grown,
and most are said to weigh more than the biggest dinosaurs.
So they confidently swim around, for they have few predators.

**Blue whale, blue whale swimming in the sea,
catching all the little krill with your special baleen.
Blue whale, blue whale, you eat tons each day,
for you need to feed your little calf before you two can play.**

They're warm-blooded mammals that spend their lives at sea.
They come to the surface, for whales need air to breathe.
Shrimp-like creatures known as krill this whale likes to eat,
for blue whales have baleen because they don't have any teeth.

Blue whales are baleen whales. This means that they do not have any teeth with which to eat. They have something called baleen on both sides of their upper jaw. Baleen acts like a strainer. Whales will suck water and krill into their mouths, shut their mouths, and then push the water out with their tongues, then the whales will eat the krill.

When a little calf is born, you won't believe its size.
Weighing over 5 tons, this newborn's quite a prize.
Depending on the mother for milk and nourishment,
the calf will gain 200 pounds each day, a wonderment!

(Chorus)

10. Shy Octopus

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You might think I'm scary, but I'm really very shy.
I have a boneless body, on which I do rely.
I hide in rocky caves or a cozy little den,
and wait for a tasty crab to quickly apprehend.
I'm known for my tentacles. I have eight arms in all
with hundreds of suction cups. I really have a ball.
I use my arms to cling to things. I use my arms to catch
lobsters and crabs which I quickly try to snatch.

**Shy octopus, that really is so true.
I change colors depending on my mood.
And if I sense real danger, I have a special tool.
I spray an ink-like liquid, for the enemy I fool.**

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I'm really quite a swimmer. Like a rocket I will dart
in any direction. With grace I will depart.
But when it's time to lay my eggs I'll no longer roam,
for I'll string my eggs along the walls of my cozy home.
I'll clean the water and I'll wait. My eggs I must protect,
for predators would like my eggs—to that I do object.
And so I'll wait until they hatch. On me they do rely.
And then it's time for me to go, and so I say goodbye.

(Chorus)

11. I'm the Great White Shark

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I may not be very popular. You may be afraid of me.
I'm known for attacking things with my razor-sharp teeth.
I do not have any bones. I am made of cartilage.
I guess if you met me it wouldn't be a privilege.

(Chorus 1:)

**I'm the great white shark, with lots and lots of teeth.
I'm good at hearing, good at sensing, good at finding things.
I swiftly swim, find my prey, then I will attack;
for friendly manners is the one thing I admit I lack.**

I swim along the shoreline and I find so many fish.
And seals and squids and sea lions all make a tasty dish.
I know you do not realize that I keep the ocean clean,
for I eat the dead and dying fish. They make a great cuisine.

(Chorus 1)

My baby sharks are born in quite an unusual way,
for the eggs I keep inside myself until they hatch one day,
and then the babies are born live and ready for some food.
I don't need to help, for their own food they will pursue.

(Chorus 2:)

**For I'm the great white shark, with lots and lots of teeth.
But remember, there are plenty of good things about me.
I'm used for cancer research and I keep the waters clean
by eating all the dead and dying fish—a great cuisine.**

12. Sea Otter Won't You Play With Me

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You'll find them swimming on their backs. Their whiskers look so sweet.
There's mother and there's baby, and they're looking for a treat.
They swim among the beds of kelp found close to the shore,
and search for clams and sea urchins, for these they do adore.

**Friendly sea otter, won't you come and play with me?
Let's swim and dive and explore in the shallow sea.
I'll brush your fur and stroke your head. Will you be my friend?
Friendly sea otter, won't you come and play with me?**

Now, a sea otter paddles with her webbed hind feet,
grooming her thick fur and keeping it neat.
So air will trap inside the fur to keep her nice and dry.
She likes to stay warm, so on her fur she will rely.

(Chorus 2x)