



Dear Educator,

Set sail for adventure with the Ocean Rangers! With this free program from Captain Sandy’s Charities, the State of Florida, and the curriculum specialists at Young Minds Inspired, students will explore Florida’s waters and how to help keep our oceans and marine creatures safe, while also getting a glimpse at the real innerworkings of a ship. Along the way, your students will celebrate their own unique traits and learn the importance of working as a team.

Please share this program with other teachers at your school. And tell us what you think of it by visiting ymiclassroom.com/feedback-oceanrangers. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Sincerely,
 Dr. Dominic Kinsley
 Editor in Chief
 Young Minds Inspired

Questions? Contact YMI toll-free at 1-800-859-8005, or by email at feedback@ymiclassroom.com.

Target Audience

Grades 1-3

Program Components

- Available at ymiclassroom.com/oceanrangers:
- This teacher’s guide with three reproducible student activity sheets
 - A companion teaching kit for grades 4-6
 - A reproducible family letter
 - A Florida standards chart
 - A feedback form

Concepts and Skills

Marine science	Problem solving
Persuasive writing	Collaboration
Descriptive writing	Creativity

About The Ocean Rangers

The Ocean Rangers are an eclectic, fictional crew of brave adventurers whose mission is to explore the waters of the world while protecting everyone and everything in them. Led by Captain Sandy, this intrepid team includes a mysterious benefactor, an AI robot, a daring first mate, a talented chef with an octopus helper, a clever young inventor, and a state-of-the-art vessel with all the technology and supplies they need to save the day.

How to Use This Guide

Photocopy the activity sheets and use the information below as a guide to implement them. Copy and send home the family letter, email it, and/or post it on your class website to extend the learning fun. Visit ymiclassroom.com/oceanrangers for additional resources.

Activity 1: Meet the Ocean Rangers!

Read the description of the Ocean Rangers to students. Then pass out the activity sheet and read the descriptions of each team member. Next, have students work in small groups to select a “mission” and identify how the Ocean Rangers could work together to solve the problem. Have each team share its solution.

Discuss how your class, like the Ocean Rangers, is also a team. Everyone has unique or special traits and contributes something important to the class. On the back of the sheet, students draw themselves as a member of the Ocean Rangers and list their own special traits. Display the drawings once students are done.

Activity 2: Command Central

Explain that the Ocean Rangers have a special vessel, or ship, with technology to support their missions. Although their ship is imaginary, it has many of the same basic elements found on real research and exploratory vessels.

Ask students to imagine that they are building a ship that will be used to explore the oceans and rescue marine life. What might shipbuilders need to take into consideration when designing such a boat? Examples might include: size, shape, safety, equipment, storage, power, etc.

Pass out the activity sheet and read it together. Invite students to share their ship designs with the class. As an extension, have students build ships out of craft materials.

Activity 3: Protecting Our Waters

Invite your class to guess what Florida sea creature you are describing: *They have large, thick gray bodies, paddle-shaped tails, and front flippers. They like to swim slowly in shallow water and have a sweet, wrinkled face with a whisker-covered snout.* Answer: Manatees.

Explain that manatees are one of the marine creatures the Ocean Rangers work to protect. Pass out the activity sheet and read it with students to introduce them to some other Florida marine animals. Then have students create posters to identify how they can help protect the animals. Display their posters on a bulletin board to support Florida’s amazing marine wildlife.

Coming This Winter!

Visit ymiclassroom.com/oceanrangers for a free poster, more activities to extend the learning, and an online quiz about Florida’s wonderful waterways.



Meet the Ocean Rangers!

The Ocean Rangers are brave adventurers whose mission is to explore the waters of the world, while protecting everyone and everything in them. They have a state-of-the-art ship with the technology and supplies they need to save the day. Meet them!

Captain Sandy

Kind leader, loves all creatures. Steers and controls the ship.



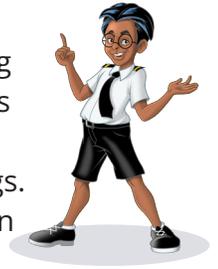
D.I.N.G.H.Y.

AI robot with drones. Smart, stubborn, does not like water – it makes him rust.



Keel

Clever, young boy who lives on the ship. Invents things. Has a dolphin friend.



Chef Cocci

Talented Spanish-speaking chef, has an octopus assistant. Can repair almost anything, including injuries.



Jeremy Diver (JD)

First officer. Brave, takes action, and likes to win.



Pulpo

Octopus that is very helpful with eight arms, but also steals things!



The Mission!

Read the scenarios below. How can the Ocean Rangers work together to complete each mission? Who can help solve the problem?

1. The Ocean Rangers must collect a treasure from a sunken ship. They need someone who can dive and someone who can carry all the items they recover.

How can the team help? _____

2. Oh no! There's been an oil spill and sea creatures must be relocated to safety. The Ocean Rangers need someone who can steer the ship to the spill quickly and safely. They also need someone who can invent rescue equipment.

How can the team help? _____

3. The Ocean Rangers come across an injured dolphin. They must help him! They need someone who can heal and prepare food for the dolphin. They also need someone who can communicate with the dolphin.

How can the team help? _____

Welcome to the Team!

Imagine that you join the Ocean Rangers.

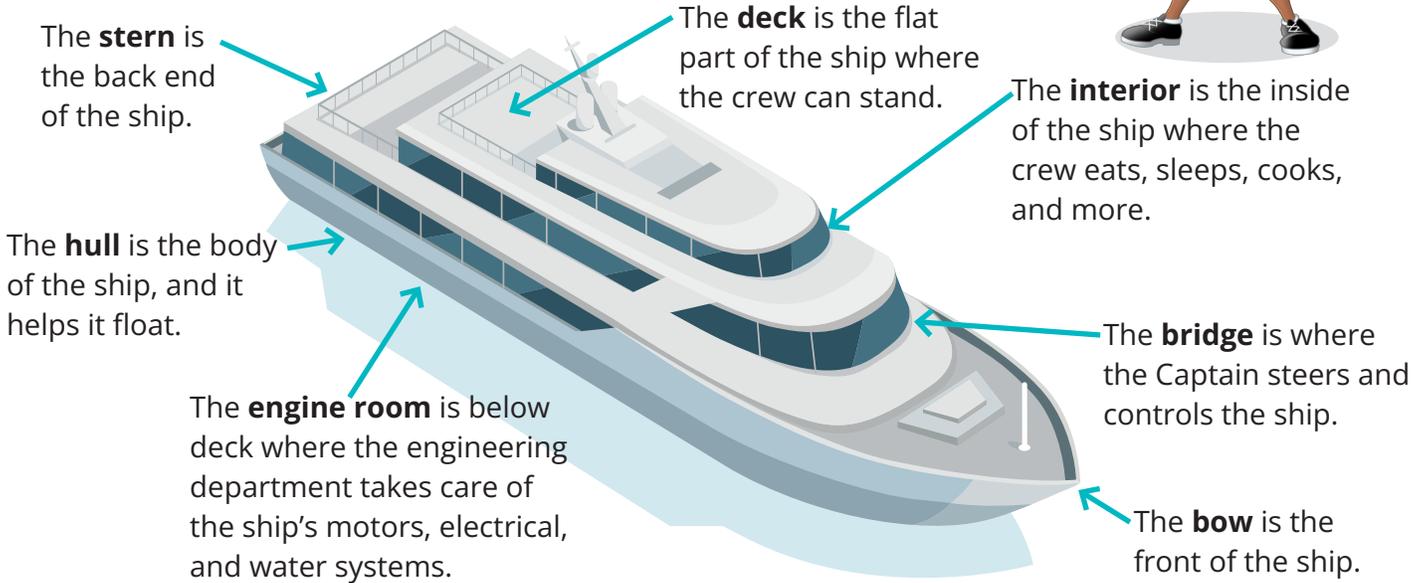


On the back of this sheet, draw a picture of yourself as part of the team. List your special traits that make you a great team member.



Command Central

Part 1: It's time to learn the ropes! To be a member of the Ocean Rangers' crew, you must learn the parts of a ship. Join Keel on a tour!



Part 2: Use your imagination to draw your own ocean exploration ship. What will it look like? What equipment will it have? Consider tools such as cameras, robots, and mini vessels for exploring the waters. Show the parts of the ship listed above.



Protecting Our Waters



The Ocean Rangers help protect marine animals. These are animals that live in or near water.

Florida's marine animals are *threatened* or even *endangered*. This means there aren't many of them. Read about three of these animals:

- Manatees live in warm, shallow waters, and move slowly. Speeding boats can hurt them.
- Sea turtles sometimes eat plastic bags or other trash thinking it is food, and it makes them sick.
- Giant manta rays can get caught in old fishing nets, and their water homes can become polluted.

Manatee



Sea turtle



Giant manta ray



You Can Help!

You can help Florida's marine animals, just like the Ocean Rangers. Check out the ideas below. Circle something you and your family can do. Then draw a poster on the back of this sheet encouraging others to help.



Shop with cloth or reusable bags instead of plastic bags. Sea turtles and other marine animals can mistake plastic bags for food.



Go slow and follow the rules when boating in areas where manatees live.



Never leave trash on the beach. Put your trash in the garbage or recycling bin.



Throw away old fishing nets and lines.

