



FULL S.T.E.A.M. AHEAD!

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 4-6

Program Components

Available at ymiclassroom.com/oceanrangers:

- This teacher's guide with three reproducible student activity sheets
- A companion teaching kit for grades 1-3
- 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!

Ask students what teamwork means. Invite them to share any experiences that they have had as part of a team. Explain that being part of a team can be fun, plus teamwork can help us make a meaningful impact, whether it's solving a problem, creating something amazing, or both.

Introduce students to the Ocean Rangers. Pass out the activity sheet and read it with students. Have them work in teams to brainstorm solutions to the missions. Once done, have each team share its ideas.

Activity 2: Command Central

Explain that although the Ocean Rangers' state-of-the-art vessel is imaginary, it has many of the same basic elements found on real research and exploratory vessels.

Pass out the activity sheet and go over the directions. Have students work in teams to brainstorm what they think would make a great ship for the Ocean Rangers. Have students share their completed images.

Activity 3: Protecting Our Waters

Explain that the Ocean Rangers have pledged to protect all marine life. Sadly, some animals found in Florida's waters have become endangered because of human actions.

Pass out the activity sheet and go over the instructions. Have students complete the page individually or in small groups. Once done, create a bulletin board to display the students' posters highlighting how we can all help protect marine wildlife and our waterways.

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 technology and supplies they need to save the day. Meet the team!

Captain Sandy is the fearless leader of the crew who steers and controls the ship. She sees the good in all people and gets the job done even when the stakes are high.



D.I.N.G.H.Y. is an AI robot who hates water because it makes him rust. He is a tech miracle. His body contains detachable drones, and he can transform into different transport vehicles.



Keel is an 8-year-old boy rescued by Captain Sandy. A bit of a genius, he has a good memory and can invent almost anything. He has a dolphin friend that he rides.



Chef Cocci is a talented chef. She can speak Spanish, repair almost anything, and has a gift for healing.



Jeremy Diver (JD) is the First Officer. It's his job to help Captain Sandy run the ship. He is charming, competitive, and likes to take action.



Pulpo is Cocci's octopus assistant. He uses his eight arms to work efficiently, but also to steal sometimes.

The Team's Mission!

Choose a mission below. Write a paragraph describing how the Ocean Rangers can use their skills to work together to complete the mission. Include yourself as part of the team and detail how you would use your own unique traits to help the team succeed.

1. A ship carrying important equipment sank and the Ocean Rangers must locate it and salvage the equipment.
2. Pirates are targeting luxury cruise ships to rob the passengers. The Ocean Rangers must come up with a plan to track and stop the pirates.
3. A toxic spill has threatened sea life on a nearby coral reef. The Ocean Rangers must stop the toxic spread and rescue the marine creatures.

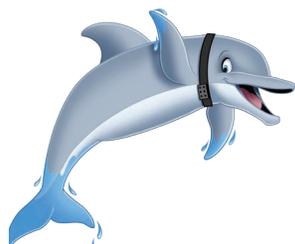


Command Central

Welcome to the Ocean Rangers' vessel! Join Keel on a tour.

First stop, the **keel**. This is the part of the ship that lies underwater. It provides stability and support to the ship — just like I support the Ocean Rangers with my ideas and inventions!

Now, we'll head to the **bridge**, which towers above the ship's deck — the top part of the boat where we walk around. The bridge is control central. It features lots of communication tools and radar devices. This is where Captain Sandy navigates the ship, monitors the weather, and keeps a sharp eye on what's happening around us. Look! We can see my dolphin friend Dolly swimming around the **bow**. That's the front of the ship. The back is called the **stern**.



Let's head downstairs, which we call **below**. Here we have the **galley**, or kitchen, and bunks where the crew sleeps. We also have the **engine room**. You guessed it — this is where the boat's engines and pumps are. The engineering department is the heart of the vessel.

Now let's head over to the **mess**, which is where the crew eats and socializes. This is where I like to work on my inventions.



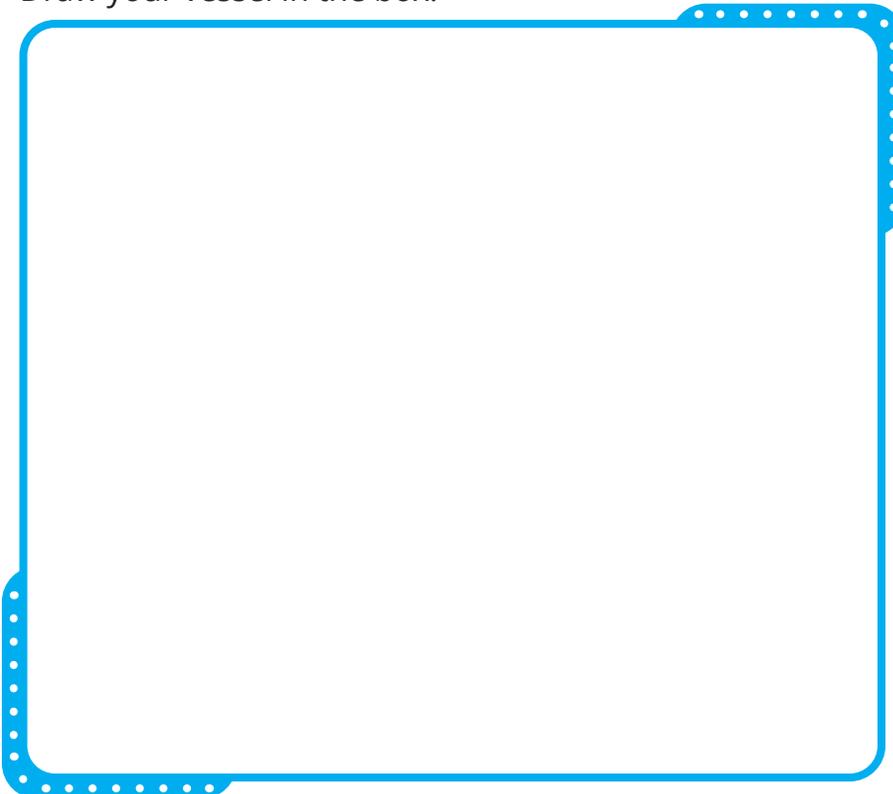
Design It!

In the space below, design your own research vessel. Use your imagination to outfit your high-tech ship.

Ship's name: _____

Technology on board: _____

Draw your vessel in the box.



Protecting Our Waters

The Ocean Rangers help protect marine plants and animals that live in or near the water. Read the information below to learn about some of Florida’s marine animals and the threats that they face.

Florida is home to a wide variety of saltwater habitats, but some of those habitats are threatened by human activity. When this happens, the animals that live in these habitats also become threatened and can even become endangered. For example:

- Manatees live in warm, shallow waters such as estuaries at the mouth of slow-moving rivers. But estuaries are popular areas for boat traffic, and manatees are often struck and injured by boats.
- Sea turtles are found on Florida’s beaches and along the shore, the same places people go to enjoy the ocean. Unfortunately, when people leave plastic bags and other trash behind them, the sea turtles can mistake it for food and get sick.
- Giant manta rays depend on seagrass habitats for food, but pollution is harming seagrass beds and making it difficult for manta rays to survive.



Manatee



Sea turtle



Giant manta ray



You Can Help!

Brainstorm ways you, your family, and friends can help protect marine animals. Write your ideas below. Then on the back of this sheet, use your ideas to create a poster to raise awareness about how to help these animals.

Ways to help marine animals: _____
