

David Engel Entertainment Presents

“Captain Nemo’s Adventure Academy!”

An Environmental Stewardship Assembly for Grades K-5

Teacher Study Guide with Follow-up Classroom Activities 2023-2024





WELCOME ABOARD!

We are delighted that you and your students are setting sail on this adventure with Captain Nemo. This Study Guide will help make your assembly a more enjoyable and worthwhile experience for all.

Our aim is to provide educators with helpful information, tools, and follow-up classroom activities to deepen this enrichment event long after the captain sets sail.

Within this guide you will find:

- **An overview of the assembly and what to expect during the performance.**
- **An introduction to the plot and character elements.**
- **The main topics covered in the assembly.**
- **A glossary of terms students will encounter.**
- **Fun follow-up activities and classroom discussion starters for further enrichment.**

cordially,

Captain Nemo

Cmdr, Submarine Nautilus

Guardian of the Deep

AN OVERVIEW OF THE SHOW: What to expect

Captain Nemo arises from the ocean's depths to train a new generation of children to become '*Guardians of the Deep*,' those who will cherish and protect the waters and marine wildlife of planet Earth.

You and your students have been chosen for today's training by the famously reclusive and cantankerous Captain Nemo and are welcomed into his underwater realm.

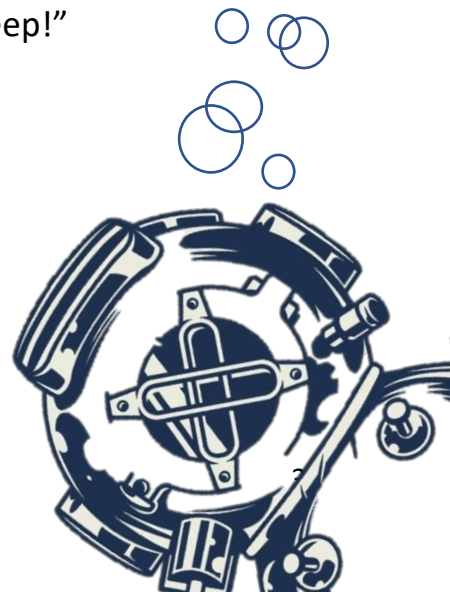
During the assembly kids enjoy a series of entertaining tasks and amusing tests that engage them both physically and intellectually. These tasks aim to focus their attention on the educational content and draw them into the madcap world of Captain Nemo's Adventure Academy.

The captain lives to excite students about the *Wonders of the Deep* and inspire the next generation to be more active stewards of our environment. "We are all connected..." is Nemo's motto and the themes of interdependence and interconnectedness underscore the shows content.

Illustrating this interconnectedness are explorations of a whales feeding (*and pooping*) cycle; how bioluminescent animals cooperate and how a mindless act of littering can influence our environment.

State curriculum standards are woven into the many comical routines throughout the show and may be integrated immediately to help students feel successful and inspired. These memorable strategies empower children, address their fears, and give them agency to combat pollution, ignorance, and complacency in an ever-changing global climate.

Finally, in a magical surprise appearance, King Neptune himself leads the swearing-in ceremony for the newly graduated "Guardians of the Deep!"



DRAMATIC PLOT ELEMENTS IN THE ASSEMBLY

'The ART in S.T.E.A.M!'

Classroom preparation and discussion prior to attending any assembly will help deepen a students' experience, comprehension, and retention of the shows content. Here are some points to look out for Captain Nemo's Adventure Academy.

PLOT: What is the story about? What are the Themes? Is there Conflict?

Captain Nemo is getting too old to help his undersea family of fishes, coral, crustaceans, plants and animals of the Earth's waters and he needs some help!

CHARACTERS: Who do you meet during the show?

Besides the silly Captain Nemo, who else helps move the action along? Students will encounter spouting whales, glowing sea-creatures, a slimy Anglerfish, the giant Kraken, an interrupting banana and even King Neptune himself.



CONFLICT: Who are the 'bad guys' in the story? What is the trouble here? What is getting in the way of Captain Nemo?

Why is Captain Nemo so tired and cranky? Is it just because he is too old or is there a bigger problem that he can't figure out by himself?

Is it that people just don't care and that they are too lazy? What is there too much of floating in the world's oceans and on our beaches? If you are curious and courageous what might occur in your school? Your community? The World?

SETTING: Where does the show take place?

The setting of Captain Nemo's Academy is in and around his fantastic underwater home, the submarine Nautilus. How or why do we allow ourselves to be transported, in our imaginations, from our school and into Captain Nemo's Adventure Academy?

GLOSSARY OF WORDS & TERMS

Discover new words and vocabulary from the show!

Ahoy: How sailors say “Hello!”

Captain: The Leader of the crew; The boss of the ship with all the responsibilities.

Guardian: A protector; someone who acts in the best interest of another less powerful

Recluse: Someone who removes themselves from interacting with others; a ‘loner.’

Submarine: A long, metal vessel or boat that can stay submerged safely underwater.

Beluga: A small cream-colored whale that lives in cold arctic waters.

Kraken: A mythical giant squid that was said to attack large sailing ships and sink them.

Cuttlefish: A type of squid that can change colors to camouflage itself for protection

Landlubber: A term sailors use to describe land-dwelling people.

Interconnectedness: Being connected or having an important bond with each other.

Interdependence: Being reliant or needing each other for protection and wellbeing.

Under weigh: When a ship pulls up its anchor, or weighs anchor, and gets moving.

Fish: Various aquatic animals usually with gills, scales, fins.

Mammals: Animals who produce milk (by the females) and have body hair body. Human beings, whales, seals, dolphins, are mammals.

Crustaceans: Many sorts of sea life that have an outer skeleton; lobsters, crabs, and shrimp.

Corals: tiny marine creatures that secrete a rock-like substance to make their homes in; usually beautifully colored and increasingly endangered.

Debris: Scattered pieces of waste, plastic, man-made objects that pollute the environment.

Sustainably Harvested Seafood: Seafood that is caught or farmed in ways that consider the long-term vitality the seafood and the well-being of the oceans.



Unavailable: Something that cannot be had or used; locked away or missing.

Tall Ship: A very large sailboat usually with three or more masts and multiple sails.

Wheel's Kick: The movement of a ship's wheel as it plunges in the sea.

Blown Spume: Seafoam or frothy foam blown off waves by the wind.

Merry Yarn: A funny story told by a sailor.

Laughing-fellow Rover: A jolly shipmate or member of the ship's crew.

Long Trick: A long sea voyage usually a long time away from home.

Perception: Understanding or knowing something through using your sense of sight, hearing, touch, taste, or smell.

Promotion: Advancing to a higher rank or importance; usually in Military service.

Meritorious Service: Succeeding in doing something difficult with courage and talent.

Marine Scientist: Someone who studies and is concerned with the health of Sea-Life and the Water.

Baleen Whale: A type of whale that strains food from the water with long combs or fibers in its mouth; does not have teeth.

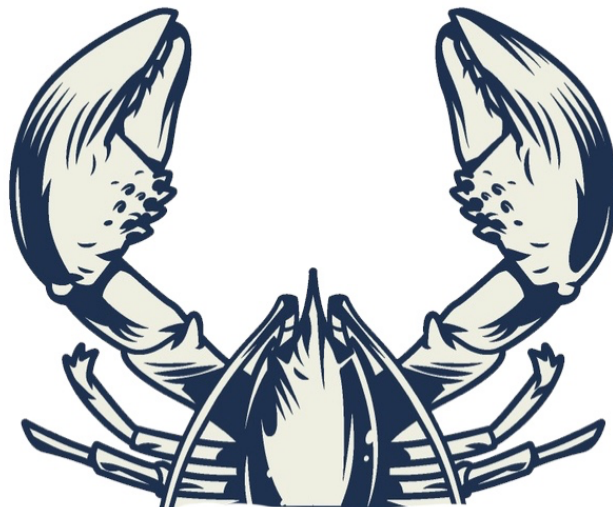
Krill: Small shrimp-like creatures that live in seawater and in large schools of millions.

Bioluminescence: the making or production of light by living things. Examples are fireflies, mushrooms, planktons, octopods, and fish.

Plankton: Clouds of millions of tiny, drifting sea-life like algae.

Mother Nature: is a made-up character in stories who represents all that is Nature on planet Earth; usually in the form of a mother (sometimes known as Mother Earth or the Earth Mother).

King Neptune: The mythological (made up) God of freshwater and the sea, sometimes known as Poseidon.





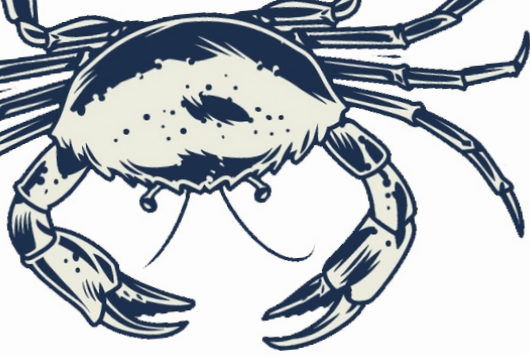
AT-HOME SOLUTIONS

Ask your parents to lend a hand (or eight tentacles) to help reduce plastic waste at home.

One way we can help the ocean is by reducing our reliance on plastics at home. Many of the most common items found littering our shores can easily be avoided or replaced. Here are some easy ways you can find plastic-free alternatives and reduce plastic waste in your life:

- **Slurp!** Drinking straws are dangerous to many ocean animals. Next time you're at a restaurant just say "no thanks" to straws or bring your own reusable straw.
- **Yuck!** Plastic knives, spoons and forks litter our beaches and waterways. You can help reduce this waste by asking delivery places *not* to pack disposable utensils. If the entire United Kingdom can ban plastic utensils (2023) then so can you!
- **Bag it!** When helping mom or dad grocery shopping, bring reusable bags and ask your parents to purchase products that come in glass, paper, or use the *least* amount of plastic packaging.
- **Washed Out!** Dishwashing detergent is poison. This stuff makes its way into our waterways and into the bodies of helpless sea life. Ask your parents to make their own! It costs less than the store-bought junk and works better. In a big, air-tight jar combine: Two-parts borax, two-parts washing soda, one-part citric acid, one-part salt.

Just a little bit of effort and creativity at home can help reduce plastic waste and make for a healthier planet for us ALL (Including the fishes!).



IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Don't be crabby. These follow-up activities are fun and build awareness!

After seeing the show, please discuss the topics presented and how your students feel about them. Introducing related, grade-appropriate topics will deepen children's understanding, motivate, and open wider pathways for learning.

The following activities will enrich your student's classroom experience and re-enforce the message of Environmental Stewardship at the heart of Captain Nemo's Adventure Academy.

SPECIAL VIEWING

These select videos are excellent follow-up experiences and support your students' learning and curiosity. Available on Netflix or DVD.

My Octopus Teacher (TV-G) In this Academy Award winning documentary, a highly intelligent animal shares her mysterious world, and a human discovers his place in it.

Puff: Wonders of the Reef (TV-G) In this award-winning documentary, a baby pufferfish travels through a wondrous micro-world full of fantastical creatures as he searches for a home on the Great Barrier Reef.

Mission Blue (TV-PG) This eye-opening documentary follows oceanographer Sylvia Earle's campaign to save the world's oceans from threats such as over-fishing and pollution.



IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES continued

CREATE POSTERS FOR YOUR SCHOOL

After the assembly, it is important for children to share their growing awareness and understanding with peers. Encourage your class produce colorful, persuasive posters which may be displayed around the school to raise awareness in others to be more mindful of the topics presented in the assembly.

Sample poster topics may be:

Marine life protection

Water conservation

Plastics in our seas, wetlands, and landfills

Recycling and proper disposal of waste

Reducing fast-food consumption to protect the Amazonian Rainforest

Sustainably harvested seafood

This poster design challenge incorporates creativity, innovation, writing and rhetoric. Urge students to create an effective poster with phrases, keywords and a captivating text and images to get their message across.

PLANT A TREE

Gather funds from each family and purchase a tree to plant near your school. Years later students may return and take pride in their class tree!

VOLUNTEER CLEAN-UP DAY

Live close to a stream, a wetland, a river, or a beach? Have your students organize your class or school-wide event to pick up litter and dispose of it properly. Discuss the results generated by this self-less act (pride, beautification, helping wildlife, etc) Wash hands afterward!

CLEAN UP YOUR OWN ACT

Take your class outside and pick up the trash on your own school property. Is there litter? Tally how many items you find. How much was plastic? Wash hands afterward!

IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES continued

WRITE LETTERS TO THE BIG FISH: COMMUNICATE WITH THE CORPORATE POLLUTERS THEMSELVES & WITH THE PEOPLE IN POWER

It helps children to have a feeling of control and to have their feelings heard, especially from those in powerful positions. Expressing their feelings, wishes, and even offering solutions have a big effect when one may be feeling powerless.

Have kids write a letter to the President of the United States, a U.S Cabinet member or to the head of a company whose products contribute to the world's pollution crisis. This can be a respectful letter with drawings composed by the entire class and signed by students, or letters from individual students. What effect might this have? Do you think they'll write back? A few examples, but not a definitive list:

President Joe Biden

and/or Michael Regan, Presidential Cabinet: Environmental Protection Agency

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington, DC 20500

Poland Spring

(World-wide plastics polluter, trucking fleet pollution)

Anne Dettloff, CEO

900 Long Ridge Rd. Building 2 Stamford, Connecticut, 06902

Coca-Cola International

(World-wide plastics polluter, diabetes/childhood obesity, trucking fleet pollution)

James Quincey Chairman and CEO

One Coca Cola Plaza, Northwest Atlanta, GA 30313

McDonald's International

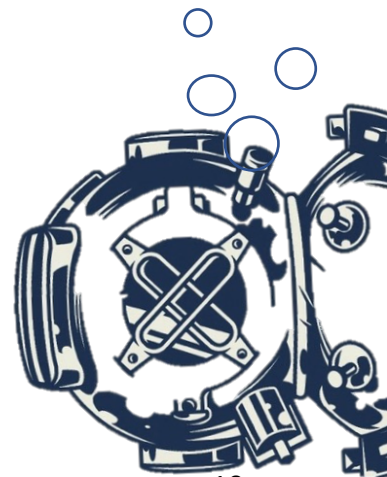
(World-wide plastics polluter, diabetes/childhood obesity, trucking pollution)

Chris Kempczinski, President and CEO

McDonald's Corporation

110 N. Carpenter St.

Chicago, IL 60607



IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES continued

PARTNER DIRECTLY WITH CONSERVATION GROUPS LOCALLY, REGIONALLY, OR INTERNATIONALLY

Identify what theme or topic captures your students' compassion and interest the most. Hold a vote and target a conservation organization to partner with for the rest of the school year. Generate awareness in your community about your sister program, hold a benefit bake sale and donate proceeds along with letters of encouragement, etc.

Here are a few we recommend:

Turtle Hatchery Verdiazul

A wonderful, self-sustaining sea-turtle hatchery right on a tropical beach in Costa Rica

www.verdiazulecr.org

Contact Valerie at 556R+V84

Acceso a Playa, Junquillal, Provincia de Guanacaste, Costa Rica

Billion Oyster Project

Protecting New York's Waterways and harbor wildlife

www.billionoysterproject.org

10 South Street, Slip 7, NY, NY 10004

Reef Environmental Education Foundation

International Coral Reef conservation

www.reef.org/conservation-partners

P.O Box 370246 Key Largo, FL 33037

The Sea Change Project- South Africa

Growing a nature-based community
of ocean and sea forest
ambassadors.

<https://seachangeproject.com>



IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES continued

START A CLASS “POP-UP” MAKERS WORKSHOP & TOY STORE

Make these fun useful objects, games and toys and sell them before the Holiday’s to raise funds for your classroom. These easy and fun projects transform trash into cash while taking plastic off the streets and out of the landfills.

RECYCLED BOTTLE PLANTERS

Grow plants on windowsills in your class or home that sprout green leaves, delicious veggies and generate oxygen. Cut narrow tops off water bottles or milk jugs, poke holes in bottom for drainage, add soil and seeds. Water regularly, but sparingly!

SEA IN A BOTTLE

With a small funnel, pour equal parts vegetable oil, and water into bottles, feel free to add glitter and small seashells. Add a few drops of blue food dye, seal with tight fitting caps and watch the magic waves as the oil and water do not mix. These neat discovery bottles are long-lasting toys that kids and even babies love to play with.

SODA BOTTLE FLOWER PRINTS

Have you ever noticed that the bottom of a soda bottle is similar in shape to a flower? Adding paint to the bottom of the bottle and pressing it to paper makes the perfect flower stencil print. These are long-lasting tools to keep with art supplies.

SHARK PLASTIC SODA BOTTLE GAME

Transform old plastic bottles into a wide-mouth shark with markers, craft paper and googly-eyes. Craft a small fish from cardboard, decorate and tie with string to a pencil or twig and go fishing! A fun game that will entertain long after the project is complete.

“MONSTER, INC” PENCIL HOLDERS MADE FROM PLASTIC SHAMPOO BOTTLES

Reuse old plastic shampoo bottles to create these fun pencil holders designed after Monster, Inc characters. Cut top off the bottles, paint and add googly-eyes and costumes with craft paper or marker. Another long-lasting object that helps the Planet.



IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES continued

ROCKET FUELED JET PACK

Need an astronaut or superhero costume? Let your child jet off to an imaginary land where they can “fly” with a real jetpack. Affix two large (1liter) soda bottles to a cardboard backing, hot-glue cloth strips as suspenders. Spray-paint bottles silver or grey and attach strips of red and orange felt to narrow spout to mimic flames. Blast off!

BOWLING FOR BOTTLES

Transform old water bottles into funny bowling pins decorated as goofy characters that get smashed at each game. Turn bowling into a creative and eco-friendly endeavor for the whole family.

GLOW IN THE DARK BEDTIME BOTTLE

Create a glow-in-the-dark nightlight exploding with sparkles and shining stars. Fill a plastic water bottle entirely with water, dyed light blue. Add glitter and a handful of glow-in-the-dark stars. Set under a lamp for 30 minutes prior to bedtime and enjoy the “oohs” and “ahhs” at lights-out! Discussions of the stars, and solar system can lead to how recycling helps preserve the beauty of everything from animals to the night sky.

MILK JUG BALL-ON-A-STRING CATCH TOY

How many times can you catch the ball on a string? Cut the wide bottom off a large milk jug, preferably one with a handle, like a clean bleach bottle. Decorate or paint it. Have an adult poke a small hole near the mouth and tie a 15–20-inch string to the hole. Attach a pom-pom or whiffle-ball to the other end of the string. Grasp the narrow end or handle of jug with wide mouth facing up and attempt to catch the ball! Instead of buying more toys, have your students make their own and they will feel a sense of pride when playing with this challenging toy.

Ahoy! We hope you have found as much value in this content as we had in presenting it to you. From all of us at David Engel Entertainment, please accept our wishes for a wonderful and productive schoolyear.

