

JUNGLE ISLAND

Oil Spill Lesson

What happens when oil enters the ocean? Does it matter? We will investigate exactly what happens in this Oil Meets Water Conservation session!

Materials:

- Images Of Ocean VS Ocean With Oil Spilled In It
- Tray/Container
- Vegetable Oil
- Water
- Blue food coloring
- Play-Doh/Clay
- Spoons, Cups, Cotton Balls, Dish soap
- Feathers
- Toy Animals
- Gloves

Jungle Island invites kids and their families to join its veterinarian, Dr. Jason Chatfield, for his weekly #ChatswithChatfield livestream via Facebook Live at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday.



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Objective:

Explorers walk away with more knowledge on what conservation is, how oil spills affect the environment, and will learn ways to help conserve our planet.

Lesson:

Show the participants the following images (use larger printer versions). Ask them what they see in each image. Compare and contrast the two



VS



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What is water pollution?

Water pollution is when hazardous material enters the water and causes an unsafe environment for living species. This can be due to chemicals, plastic products, nutrient runoff, etc. The main cause to water pollution is from humans and can take place in any large body of water. Some examples include the ocean, lakes, rivers, etc.

Procedure:

1. Hand out trays and supplies so that the participants can build their own ecosystem.
2. Have them add toy animals and create land using the clay.
3. Mix together water and blue food coloring.
(Optional)

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4. Add water to their ecosystem. *Ask what they think will happen to the water when oil is added? What will happen to the animal?*
5. Pour the oil in and allow explorers to discuss their observations. Place a feather inside the water and discuss how this resembles the effect of oil on birds.
6. Give each explorer a spoon, cotton balls and an empty cup. Have them try and clean out as much oil as possible. *Were you able to remove the oil easily? Which method worked the best? What do you think would happen if we add dish soap to the water..*
7. Place 2-4 drops of dish soap into the water (Place soap near oil droplets). Discuss observations. *Which method should be used to clean the oil out of the ocean?*

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8. Explain to them that although the soap had a greater effect on the oil, adding soap to the ocean might be just as harmful to the environment. Instead, scientists have been using suction like a vacuum and absorbent materials like sponges or like the cotton balls you used today to remove the oil from the oceans.

Here are a few things you can do to help:

- Practice the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Eliminate one use items from your day to day use (Makeup wipes, paper towels, etc.)

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- Do the take three initiative: Clean at least three pieces of trash off the floor. If explorers do this every day, we will make a huge impact on fighting pollution.
- Explain that teaching others is another important part of ending water pollution. Tell kids to share this with their family, friends, and others to help make an impact on pollution.



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