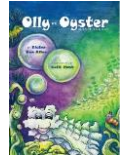


# Olly the Oyster Cleans the Bay Lesson Plans



**Make oysters.** Have students make their own oysters with this easy craft:

Materials needed: 1 coffee filter, white or tan; 2 wiggle eyes (any color); 1 Pom, (any color) size ½ inch or less; Scotch tape, Glue

Directions: Fold the coffee filter in half; then fold in half again. Tape down the side with Scotch tape. Glue wiggle eyes on one side, close to the edge. Glue a Pom on the inside for the pearl. You can use white for the pearl, but I find that kids love to pick out fun bright colors as well.

- **Make stick puppets:** Print out the coloring pages from [OllytheOyster.com/kidspage](http://OllytheOyster.com/kidspage). Have the children color and cut out the images. Glue or tape the images to craft sticks.



- **Put on a puppet show:** Print the puppet show script from [OllytheOyster.com/kidspage](http://OllytheOyster.com/kidspage). Cut along the dotted lines and give one part to each child. Use the stick puppets to represent each character. More than one student can play each character.
- **Use a demonstration** to show how oysters filter dirty water:

Materials needed: 3 spice bottles to represent algae (use oregano), detritus (use dried onion), sediment (use peppercorn); 1 gallon size Motts bottle filled with tap water; a large clear bowl; 1 small spoon; 4 coffee filters; 1 strainer that will fit over the bowl

Demonstration: Hold up the Motts bottle filled with clean water and show children how clean and clear it is. Tell them it will represent water in the bay or river. Ask them if they think sea animals would like living in the clean and clear water.

Next, hold up each spice bottle, take off the lid and add one spoonful to the Motts bottle, explaining each time that you are adding algae (tiny plants that live in the water), detritus (tiny bits of broken down plants and animal waste), and sediment (tiny bits of broken down rocks).



After each spoonful, hold the bottle up and show how dirty and mucky the water is getting. Ask children if they think sea animals will be able to breathe well in the dirty water. Ask them if sunlight will be able to reach the sea animals and underwater plants. Most living things need sunlight and oxygen to survive.

Ahead of time, line the strainer with a coffee filter and add three “oysters” made out of the coffee filters. Place the strainer over the clear bowl.

Lift up the oysters made from coffee filters and explain that they will filter the water similar to real oysters in the bays and rivers. Ask the children what they think will happen when you pour the dirty water over the “oysters”. Will the water be clean after it goes through? Why? How?

Pour the water slowly over the filters. Note: If you would like some of the debris to get through, you can remove the filter that lines the strainer.

Once the bowl is half way full, hold the bowl up in the air so all can see. Ask the children if the water is cleaner after going through the filters. Why? How? Will sea animals be able to breathe better in water with oysters?

Explain how oysters filter in a similar fashion in the bays and rivers. Let the children walk up in a line so they can see the “debris” sticking to the wet “oysters” and explain that for oysters the algae, sediment and detritus are food. Explain how oyster clean their own environment just by eating and breathing.

- **Vocabulary:** You can find a word search puzzle and a crossword puzzle with key vocabulary terms on [OllytheOyster.com/kidspage](http://OllytheOyster.com/kidspage).
- **What kids can do:** You can find a checklist for things kids can do at home to help Olly clean the environment.
- **Free Olly bookmarks:** You can find free Olly bookmarks to print on [OllytheOyster.com/kidspage](http://OllytheOyster.com/kidspage).

The image displays a collection of educational activities for children, all related to the character Olly the Oyster. The activities include:

- Checklist:** A checklist titled "I HELPED OLLY!!!" with six items for children to complete, such as "I turned off the lights when a room was empty." and "I reused something at home."
- Word Search:** A word search puzzle with a grid of letters and a small illustration of Olly the Oyster. The words to be found are listed as: BEACH, BOAT, BOTTLE, CAN, CUP, DEBRIS, DIRT, GLASS, LITTER, OYSTER, PLASTIC, RUBBER, TRASH, and WASTE.
- Crossword Puzzle:** A crossword puzzle titled "Olly and his Friends" with a grid and clues. The clues are:
  - ACROSS:**
    1. Clean edge off of rocks so they are not slippery.
    2. From the water of algae and detritus.
    3. From bits of glass and metal wastes.
    4. The food for the oyster.
    5. Clean up floating debris in the water.
    6. Clean the sediment or animal wastes and detritus.
  - DOWN:**
    1. Remove of dirt and animals.
    2. Clean up water, so it's not too dirty.
    3. The place in the water.
- Maze:** A maze titled "Olly's Treasure" with the instruction "Help Olly Find his Way Home to the Oyster Reef." The maze starts at Olly the Oyster and ends at a small house representing his home.
- Bookmarks:** Two sets of five bookmarks each. The top set is titled "Clean up with Olly!!!" and the bottom set is titled "Olly the Oyster... cleaning a river near you." Each bookmark features a small illustration of Olly the Oyster.