

Subject
language arts

Daniel's day at Sea: a closer look

Summary

Students take a closer look at a 9 year old's life at Sea. Students will reflect on the difference between their day and Daniel's. Using the Internet, students also explore the meaning of several terms.

Overall

Expectations.

Students will examine a non-fiction text and develop an understanding of the terms used by Daniel in his journal.

Specific

Expectations

Students will explain the meaning of several terms.

Students will use the Internet to develop an understanding of several terms.

Author

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BACKGROUND

We met Daniel and his family in the Bahamas, recently. They are living aboard their sailboat and cruising, just like us on *Amanzi*. Daniel wrote about what a typical day is like for him aboard his sailboat, s.v. *Eira*. Let's investigate his day in a little more detail. **First, go back and read his journal titled, Daniels day at Sea, posted Saturday, January 21, 2006.**

Challenge: Investigate using the Internet some of the terms Daniel used in his journal. Compare your day to Daniel's day.

ACTIVITIES

1. Daniel describes himself as a "cruiser in the Caribbean." What is a cruiser?
2. On Daniel's boat, he and his family use 3 pieces of equipment to conserve natural resources such as water and power. Name the 3 pieces of equipment used for making water and electricity.

3. Water makers are specialized pieces of equipment that essentially extract salt from salt water to make it drinkable. Visit this website address and write a description about how water makers work.
4. Home- schooling is very common for children and families who are traveling. There are also many families living in Canada, the US, and Australia who choose to home school. As part of their curriculum, families may follow a program from a recognized distance learning school.
 - a. Compare and contrast - write at least 3 things that are the **same** about home schooling and attending a public school and at least 3 things that are **different** about the two schools.
 - b. Write a comparison of your day and Daniel's. Include some challenges and/or differences. For example, Daniel does not see his friends on a regular basis.
5. Daniel mentions that when school finishes at 12 o'clock, he goes fishing, swimming, snorkeling and exploring. Two interesting things he identified when he snorkels are **coral heads** and **conchs**. Find out a little more about them by visiting the websites below. Write a description of each and include a drawing.
6. Two sailing terms Daniel refers to in his journal are "at the helm" and "set the hook". Find these phrases and reread the sentences. (Hook in this case is not referring to fishing). What do you think they mean? (Hint: where does he set the hook?)

Coral information and photos are at

<http://www.samford.edu/schools/artsci/biology/bahamas/reefs.html> Scroll down to see the coral head just above the title for French Angelfish. For conch information see <http://www.bahamaswildlife.fsnet.co.uk/conch.htm> and read the first two paragraphs. For more fun with nautical terms, check out the website <http://www.sailorschoice.com/Terms/scterms.htm> and use them for making a quiz.