



# Jellyfish Dream

## Auditorium Program for Grades K-2



**Program Description:** Join JJ, a young child curious about the ocean world, who uses the power of imagination to transform into a beautiful jellyfish. JJ travels through the ocean meeting other exciting species of jellies as well as jelly predators. Students explore with JJ as they discover what a jellyfish is, how and why jellies sting and more.

**Lesson:** Students will learn about the life of jellyfish, how they swim, what they eat and how they sting, as well as other sea creatures the jellies encounter.

**Conservation Message:** All life on Earth exists as part of an ecosystem.

### Curriculum Objectives:

**Tennessee** students will apply the following **Science Curriculum Performance Indicators:**

- " The student will identify the part that belongs to a specific plant or animal.
- " The students will recognize that animals obtain their food by eating plants or other animals
- " The students will identify the characteristics that enable a specific plant and/or animal to survive in its environment.

**Georgia** students will apply the following **Science Performance Standards:**

- " Students will use the ideas of system, model, change, and scale in exploring scientific and technological matters.
- " Students will investigate the characteristics and basic needs of plants and animals.
- " Students will investigate the lifecycles of different living organisms.

**Alabama** students will apply the following **Science Course of Study Content Standards:**

- " Compare size, shape, structure and basic needs of living things.
- " Describe survival traits of living things, including color, shape, size, texture and covering.
- " Describe the interdependence of plants and animals.

Additionally, all students will apply the following **National Science Education Content Standards:**

- " Develop an understanding of the characteristics of organisms.
- " Develop an understanding of the relationship between organisms and their environment.
- " Develop an understanding lifecycles of organisms.



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## Teacher's Guide to Vocabulary Words

**jellyfish** - A soft-bodied animal, mostly marine dwelling. They are carnivores that use stinging cells and tentacles to capture prey.

**mesoglea** - The jellylike material that is in the middle of the three layers of the jellyfish body. It is thin in polyps and thick in medusa.

**tentacle** - Long feelers surrounding the mouth of the polyp, which capture food and draw it back to the mouth.

**nematocyst** - The minute stinging structures on the jellyfish tentacles that contain poison for paralyzing prey.

**oral arms** - Appendage encircling the mouth of many jellyfish. These hang beneath the animal and are often long and frilly.

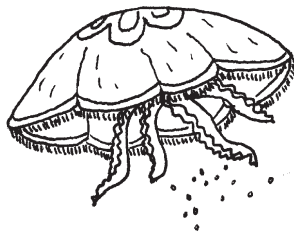
**predator** - An animal that eats another animal.

**prey** - An animal that gets eaten by another animal.

**pollution** - The dirtying of soil, water or air by the release of harmful substances.

### Jellyfish Life Cycle

**medusa** - Free-swimming stage of the jellyfish with a downward-pointing mouth - the adult.



**ephyra** - Free-swimming stage in the life cycle of jellyfish that resembles an immature medusa.



**planula** - The microscopic, free-swimming, larval stage of jellyfish.



**strobila** - Stage in the jellyfish lifecycle that reproduces by budding off new ephyra.



**polyp** - Stationary stage of the jellyfish, has a mouth surrounded by small, slender tentacles used to capture food.

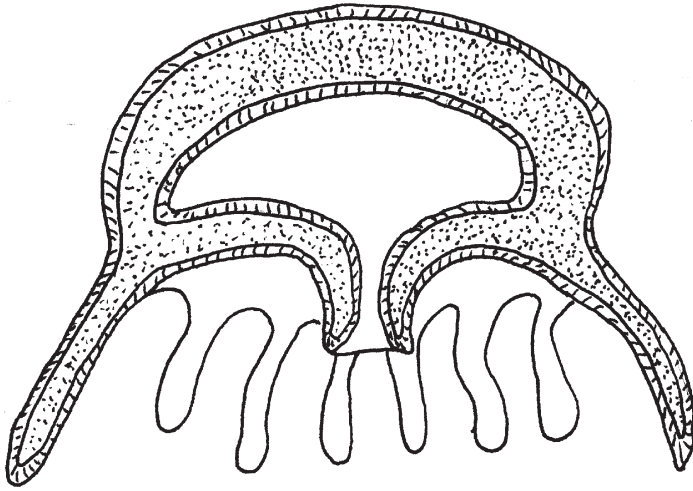


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Activity Sheet

Grab your crayons and follow the directions!!

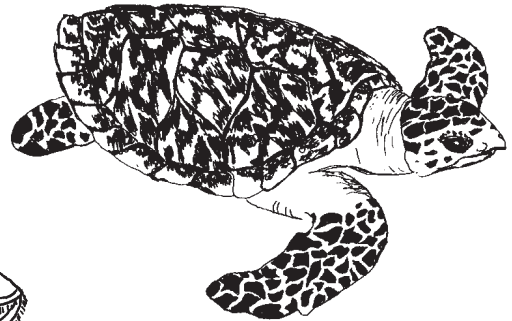
Color the jellyfish's mesoglea yellow.



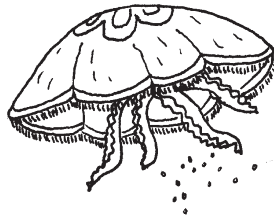
Put an X on each of the tentacles where the nematocysts are found.

Is the sea turtle a predator or prey of the jellyfish?

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Draw a circle around the medusa.  
Draw a box around the ephyra.

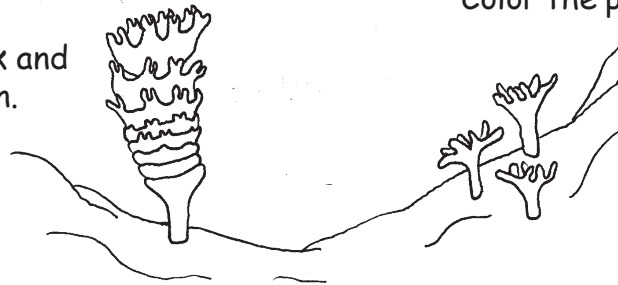


Color the jelly's oral arms blue.



Color the planula orange.

Color the polyps pink and  
the strobila green.



Answers can be found on our Website at  
[http://www.tnaqua.org/KidsTeachers/Program\\_descriptions.asp](http://www.tnaqua.org/KidsTeachers/Program_descriptions.asp)



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