

Educational Video Series

Ocean Education: Middle School Years

Title: The Ocean is Life

URL: <https://canadac3.ca/en/video/sam-ford-fiord-nunavut/>

Overview: This is a 4-minute video that looks at the often under acknowledged and undervalued role of the ocean. Discuss with your students the critical need for a healthy ocean and the 'services' that the ocean provides to our daily lives.

Discussion Questions:

- How does the ocean influence your own life? Name 3 ways.
- How do you influence the ocean through your own life choices and behaviours?
- In the video Boris explains that people generally aren't aware of how much we depend on the ocean for a habitable planet. Do you agree? What suggestions do you have for ways to build more awareness and deeper understanding in society?
- Currently what are some of the greatest threats to ocean health? In turn, what are some of the most promising solutions to support ocean health here in Canada? Globally?
- Along with having the longest coastline of any country, Canada has 20% of the world's freshwater, including the Great Lakes and thousands of lakes and rivers. How does the health of lakes and rivers connect to ocean health?
- Have you ever heard of the term 'ocean literacy'? What does it mean? Research what has been done (or not) here in Canada and globally around ocean literacy. What do you think is needed in Canada to advance ocean literacy?
- Can you name 3 choices and/or behaviours that you currently do that contribute to positive ocean health? How could you effectively encourage others to do the same?
- Are there 3 choices or behaviours that you are currently doing that negatively affect the ocean? Are these choices or behaviours that you could change? Do you want to? What would it take to do so?

Read Bios and Learn More:

[Boris Worm](#) is a professor in Marine Conservation Biology at Dalhousie University in Halifax. To learn more about Boris' ocean work, check out his [C3 hangout](#) from May 23, 2017 as part of International Day for Biological Diversity and check out [Ocean School](#).

Extended Learning Resources:

1. Check out the Canadian-based education organization, Exploring by the Seat of Your Pants and their week long events June 4-8, 2018 for World Ocean Day with over 50 ocean-related google hangouts with world leaders in ocean science and conservation. Watch them all [here!](#)
2. Check out [World Ocean Radio's recent 'Ocean Literacy Introduction'](#) series of audio essays.
3. Explore the ocean with [Ocean Sense](#), an education program of Ocean Networks Canada that offers real time ocean data and additional learning resources.

