

Lesson Plans for At the Seashore Theme Week

Fun Games and a Story Circle. **Finish Day 2**

Story Circle (30 minutes whole group)

1. Mystery Mailbox.

Choose a child to go to the MAILBOX. Inside the child finds a treasure map from Pirate Pete with a small note attached. "Hey kids, I need help. I buried my treasure somewhere, but I forgot where I put it. Can you help me find it?" To create the treasure map draw a simple map of the room or outdoor play area with landmarks that the children will recognize, such as a toy area, snack table, pine tree and so on. Mark a red X on the spot where you will hide a small treat such as chocolate coins. To make your a treasure map tear a rectangle from a brown paper grocery bag. Write the message, then crumple the paper and flatten several times until it looks like an old treasure map.

2. Read Aloud Story.

Any theme-related story about the ocean, beach or sea animals such as *Swim*, *Polar Bear*, *Swim!* By Joan Stimson.

3. Health and Manners.

Say: *the Hermit Crab takes an empty shell he finds when he needs to grow into a new home. If we want to use something that belongs to someone else we ask to borrow it. We must take very good care of anything that isn't ours so we can return it just the way we found it.* Sit facing the children. Have a small foam ball. Children take turns practicing polite language. They say: *May I borrow your ball?* You say: *Yes, you may* and toss the ball. The child with the ball then calls out the name of another child who says: *May I borrow the ball?* The first child answers: *Yes, you may* and tosses the ball. Game continues until all have a turn.

4. Gazing Glasses. Choose children to take turns wearing the gazing glasses and telling what they SEE from the day.

Materials: Prepared treasure map, hidden treasure, read aloud book, small foam ball, gazing glasses.

