



Hands – On Science with NOAA

TITLE: Cool Catch Matching Game

OVERVIEW:

In this “memory game” students will examine photographs, that were taken on a NOAA research ship, to discover the diversity of organisms found in the Atlantic Ocean.

MATERIALS:

“Cool Catch” game photos mounted on index cards

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make copies of the “Cool Catch” game photos. Each group of 2 students will need 2 of each different photo. (17 photos x 2= 34 photos for each group)
2. Cut out each photo and place on an index card.
3. Shuffle your stack of 34 photos. Place all the photos on the desk face down.
4. Flip over two cards. If the cards are identical leave them face up otherwise turn them both back over.
5. Continue until all of the pictures are matched.

SCIENCE EXPLANATION:

The NOAA Vessel, Albatross IV, is a stern trawler built in 1963. This vessel is 187 feet in length and 38 feet in width. It displaces 1,000 tons when moving across the ocean. The Albatross IV studies environmental factors and conducts a multitude of experiments including an extensive sea scallop survey. The sea scallop survey is conducted in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean from Virginia to Eastern Georges Bank (off the coast of Nova Scotia). Equipment onboard the ship allows scientists to successfully explore the Atlantic Ocean and study sea scallops. Sea scallops are organisms that move, live, and survive in the Atlantic Ocean. During Leg III of the sea scallop study onboard the Albatross IV, the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) conducted tests on the sea scallop gonads. Scientists performed tests to see if the gonads tested positive for toxins. Sea scallops can be studied to determine the health of an environment. They can be indicators of the good or bad conditions in an environment and help scientists learn about aquatic conditions.

EXTENSION IDEAS:

- Use construction paper, foam material, cotton balls, pipe cleaners, plastic cups, gravel, sequins, glitter, etc. to create a model of an underwater organism and the habitat to which it is adapted.
- Investigate the NOAA ship, www.nefsc.noaa.gov/albatross4/.
- Use illustrations and information from the internet to make dredges like the one onboard the Albatross IV. Create model dredges using toothpicks, string, ribbon, plastic ties, & other materials.

REAL WORLD:

- <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/albatross4/>
- <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/faq/>
- http://www.education.noaa.gov/Marine_Life/

