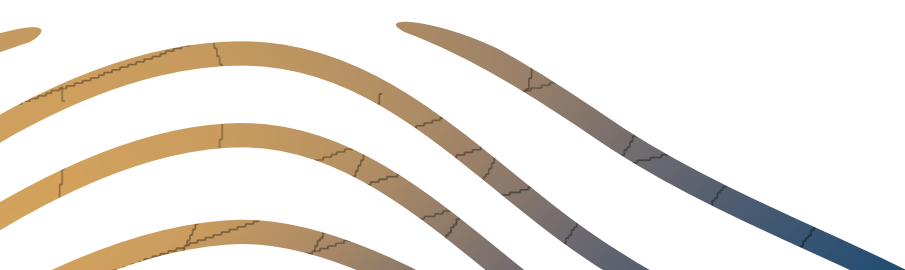




**THE OCEAN SENSES
ACTIVITIES BOOK**





SOUND



FORAMINIFERA BOOGIE

Focus:

To learn about foraminifera through practicing and presenting the song “The Foraminifera Boogie”. Pupils and teachers can also decide to play instruments along with the recorded soundtrack.

Learning objectives:

In this activity, pupils will practice listening to one another and the music. They will learn lyrics and use their voices to sing the song. This can be combined with playing actual musical instruments or using instruments the pupils have made themselves (for example see the activity “Cold Seeps Symphony”). This activity brings together music with the scientific story of the Foraminifera.

Key words:

Ocean, researchers, little known beings in the Arctic Ocean, co-living of humans and non-human beings, planetary time.

This specific lesson plan was developed in a close collaboration with: Villads Dyrved Holm, Lisa Katrin Losleben, Heike Jane Zimmermann, Monica Clerici, Giuliana Panieri. and many others in the AKMA Ocean Senses team, and not least the wonderful childrens choir.

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IN SHORT (FOR THE TEACHER):

In this activity, you and your class will listen to and learn a song about foraminifera. The song is fun to learn and contains fun characters and interesting information. The goal is to learn the song and then perform it (possibly also with other instruments if you decide).

Materials:

- Song texts (see page 5) printed for each of your pupils.
- A reasonable sound system to play the music recordings through.
- Other instruments, if possible. One can also use the instruments pupils may have made in the activity “Cold Seeps Symphony”.

Teaching Time (estimated):

Recordings of the song are available via the AKMA website (<https://akma-project.com/fauna-catalogue> or find on <https://en.uit.no/project/akma> from summer 2023). One version is with a children’s choir, and the other version is instrumental.

Class organization:

One suggestion is to get your pupils to work in pairs to learn the song text and then bring the whole class together to perform.

EXTRA:

A performance of the song by children from the international school in Tromsø can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSiAQFrjbTo>

A karaoke version is available at the following link:

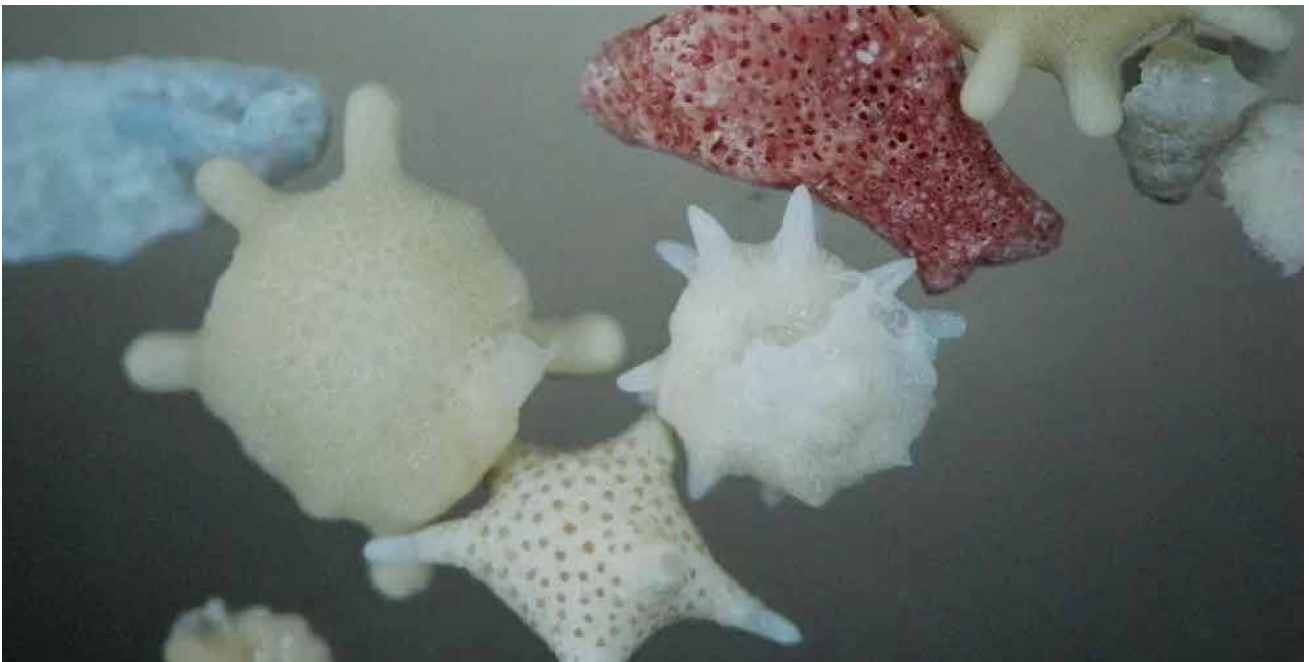
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltyfL2XaNXA>

BACKGROUND STORY:

Foraminifera are single-celled organisms living on the ocean floor. Their history reaches back approximately 500 million years. They build their shells from the minerals in the oceans. By analyzing these shells, we can get information about the climate of the past.

This song may help your pupils imagine themselves as a researcher who dives deep in the ocean to learn more about foraminifera and the climate of the past. Your pupils may also consider new perspectives about planetary time. In the song, we get to know two foraminifera, called Nina and Berry, who understand humankind as a rather new phenomenon on Earth.

Foraminifera are not only fascinating subjects to learn about, but they are a useful starting point for discussions on planetary time and ocean literacy. The learning activity also increases awareness about ocean creatures that are small, manifold, and beautiful.



Example of foraminifera shells. (Image: Smithsonian <https://ocean.si.edu/ocean-life/plankton/foraminifera>)

Learning procedure:

Although this activity can work as a stand-alone activity, we recommend you first look at “Cold Seeps Symphony”. That activity will give the pupils some nice background information and handmade instruments they can also use here.

For this activity, let your pupils listen to the song’s recording first. You can print out the song lyrics (see next page) for them to read and learn. They can then try singing the song with the recording of the children’s choir.

The final goal is to perform the song with the instrumental backing track and maybe with other instruments the pupils play or have made in other activities.

Discussion points:

Foraminifera are ancient species which have persisted through time, but few people know about them. They not only captivate our imagination through their beauty and fragility, but they can also tell us concrete details about how the climate was in the past.

After practising and performing the “Foraminifera Boogie”, consider discussing the following questions:

- What are the main things we learnt about foraminifera in this song?
- What more would you like to know about foraminifera?
- Use your imagination: What might foraminifera in the oceans today think about humans?

FORAMINIFERA BOOGIE

Berry keeps its feet on the bottom of the sea
Nina is planktonic, floating and free
Use a microscope or squint your eyes
They're very very small, and look very nice



***Foraminifera can teach us a lot
If the ocean was cold, salty or hot
Listen very carefully, hear what they say
Learn how the past is connected to today***

They're older than the dinosaurs, older than us
You can find them in the oceans, the beach and the rocks
forams carry history, unveiling lots of mystery
chemistry, biology, micropaleontology!

***Foraminifera can teach us a lot
If the ocean was cold, salty or hot
Listen very carefully, hear what they say
Learn how the past is connected to today***

If you want adventure curiosity is key
Swim along the currents to the Arctic sea
dive down deeper to the coldest seep
look at all the secrets these environments keep

***Foraminifera can teach us a lot
If the ocean was cold, salty or hot
Listen very carefully, hear what they say
Learn how the past is connected to today***

