



**THE OCEAN SENSES  
ACTIVITIES BOOK**



The background is a solid orange color. It features several sets of white, wavy, curved lines that resemble ripples or stylized waves. These lines are positioned in the top right and bottom left corners, creating a sense of movement and depth. The central area is clear, highlighting the text.

**TOUCH**



## SCULPTING MICRO-, MEIO-, AND MACROFAUNA

### Focus:

To appreciate the biodiversity of the Arctic Ocean and ocean floor, with a particular focus on lesser-known species. What kind of micro- meio-, and macrofauna (species) live on the ocean floor and what do they look like?

### Learning objectives:

In this activity, pupils will identify (one, two, or more) species living at or close to the Arctic Ocean floor and sculpt them using modelling clay. Through this activity, pupils will hopefully begin to understand differences between Arctic Ocean micro-, meio-, and macrofauna.

### Key words:

Arctic ocean biodiversity, species, fauna.

This specific lesson plan was developed in a close collaboration with:  
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## IN SHORT (FOR THE TEACHER):

This a creative activity that can nicely round off your other lessons about oceanic animals and organisms. The pupils will choose a character to recreate in sculpting clay. As the pupils make these, then you can have other conversations with them about relevant topics.

### Materials:

To make the sculptures, pupils should have the following at their disposal:

- Modelling clay
- Paints and/or pens to add color to give their creations more character.

### Teaching Time:

90+ minutes.



Example of sculpting some ocean micro-organisms called Foraminifera.  
(Illustrator Heike Jane Zimmermann in a photo by Davide Oddone)

### More information:

ArcOD Arctic Ocean Diversity Program <http://www.arcodiv.org/>

## **IN SHORT (FOR THE TEACHER):**

The Arctic Ocean is a unique ecosystem populated by a multitude of unique life forms highly adapted to the extreme and seasonal conditions of this environment.

Many of the species in the Arctic -like polar bears, walrus, narwhals, and seals- are very well known to people around the world. There are, however, countless smaller species in the Arctic Ocean that are lesser known. These species hold an abundance of knowledge about our planet's history, and the interactions in the Arctic ecosystems and how they function.

Because the Arctic Ocean is the region where the impacts of climate change are strongest, knowledge of its biodiversity is critical to understand how climate change is affecting life on Earth.

### **Learning procedure:**

You, the teacher, can choose 2-4 different species from the arctic ocean that the pupils probably know little about. Present these species to the class in a presentation with photos and come background information. The images can be used by the pupils to sculpt their own versions of the species.

Pupils are then given the time and support to craft their species of choice, talking to each other and you in the process. You can also sculpt your own model as well.

While everyone is crafting their models, you can share some more information on the differences between micro-, meio-, and macrofauna, as well as more specific details regarding each species.