Guide to the Online Learning Environment

Welcome to the Ocean Wise Online Learning Environment (OLE), hosted by Taking It Global. On this site, you will have access to all of the educational resources that Ocean Wise has to offer. This guide will focus on maneuvering through the Ocean Literacy Courses

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Ocean Wise is a conservation organization dedicated to the care and conservation or aquatic life. Our mission is to inspire the global community to become Ocean Wise by increasing its understanding, wonder and appreciation for our oceans.

Introduction

This is the main page of the Ocean Wise Education website: https://education.ocean.org/

By scrolling down, you will find the 3 Ocean Literacy Courses. You may select the level appropriate to you by clicking on the appropriate icon.

How to Register

Teacher Registration:

As a teacher, community leader, or home educator, you may join the platform first. This will allow you to view your students' work and create accounts for the elementary level students. Visit this link, and register using the code *Teacher*.

Elementary: https://education.ocean.org/oceanlitelem/assistant/

Middle School: https://education.ocean.org/oceanlitmid/assistant/

Secondary: https://education.ocean.org/oceanlitsec/assistant/

Student Registration:

For elementary students, teachers may create accounts for your students to use to access the platform. We do not require any personal information, such as names or email address for this process.

Once you have registered, visit the **Participants** section and click "Add Students" button. Here you can create as many accounts as you like for your students. We suggest not using their last names to protect their privacy. You may wish to include your school initials as part of their usernames, as many common names may already be taken.

Students in the Middle School and Secondary level course may create their own accounts and profiles on the Ocean Literacy learning platform. We suggest having a general discussion with students about online privacy first, and ensuring they do not use their last names in their profiles to protect their privacy. To register, they will use one of the two links below depending on which platform they would like to use.

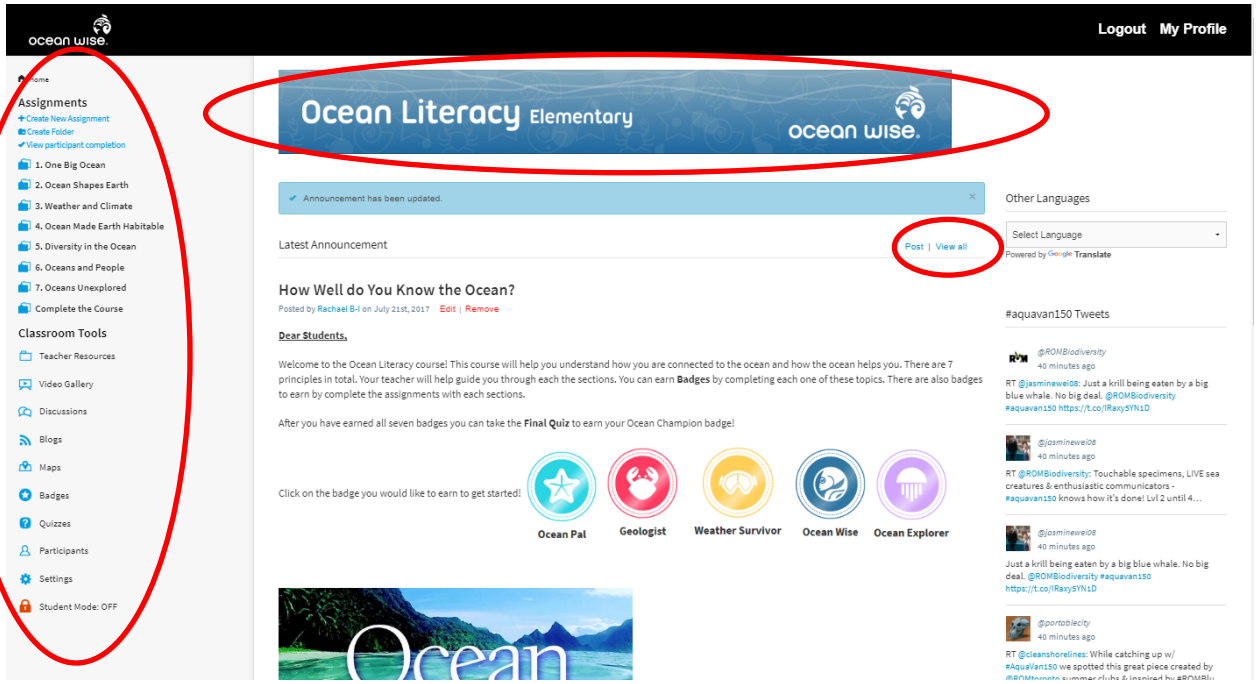
For both platforms, they will enter the code *Students*

Middle School: https://education.ocean.org/oceanlitemid/register/

Secondary: https://education.ocean.org/oceanlitsec/register/

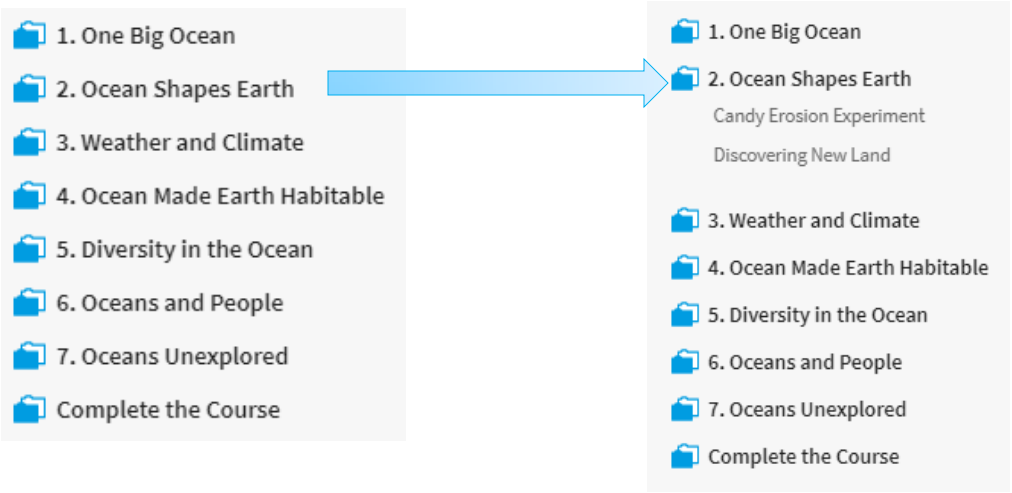
Course Navigation

This page is the “Home Page” of the Ocean Literacy Course. Here you will find information about the course and the resources available to you. There will also be announcements posted detailing new research, cool information, or updates for the course. You can “View All” announcements on the right.



One the left-hand side you can see a menu. This menu contains the course topics and resources. The Menu will always be available to you no matter where you are in the site. If at any time you want to return back to this page, you can click on the Ocean Literacy Banner at the top of the page

The top menu lists the subjects of the course, which are based on the Ocean Literacy Principles. There are 7 principles in total. They are arranged in the order that they are intended to be taken in, however you may pick and choose which subjects you do and in which order. Each subject comes with its own assignments attached to it. Once you click on a Principle, the associated assignments will appear beneath it on the menu



Each principle contains the key subject concepts that should be achieved, as outlined by the Ocean Literacy framework designed by NOAA.
http://oceanliteracy.wp2.coexploration.org/ocean-literacy-framework/

Content

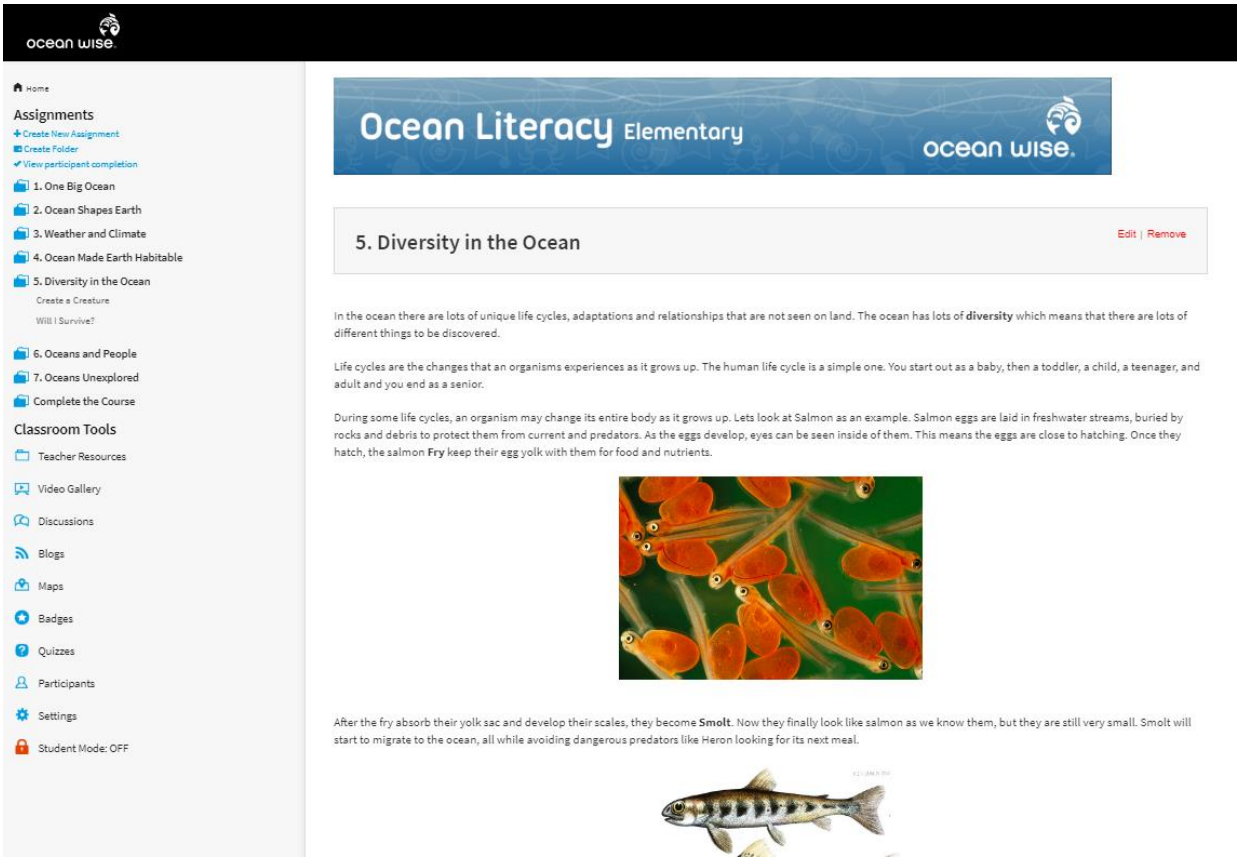
The principles are laid out in a blog format. There are pictures and videos embedded into the content. You scroll down the page to view all of the content

Each principle will also link student to Quizzes, which they may complete after reading through the content. There is a short quiz for each principle. If the students pass the quiz or complete an assignment, they automatically receive a badge

These badges will be collected under the student's profile. For the Elementary and Middle level course, there is a badge to be won for each principle quiz, and each assignment. For the Secondary level course, badges will be earned once the student completes the assignments and principle quiz for each section.

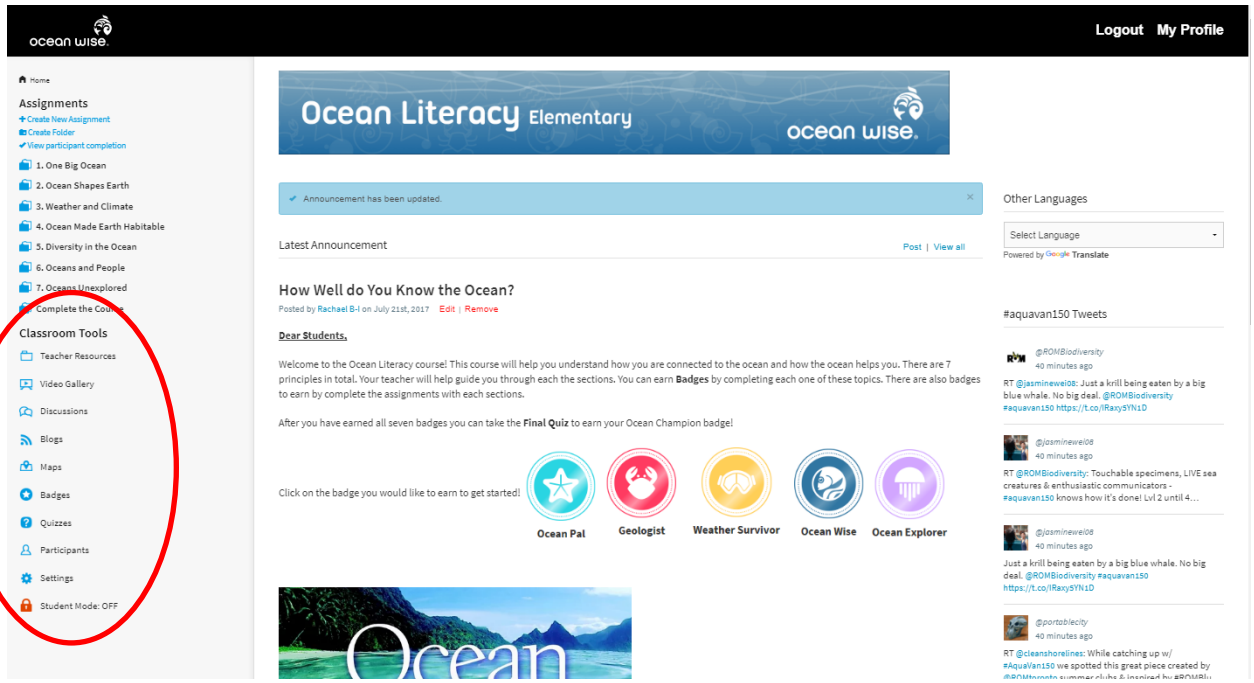
The assignments are activities designed to support or solidify the knowledge gained in the principle section. These assignments will ask students to post blogs, discussions, or photos about the assignment. Links to the blogs, discussion forums and photo galleries are linked into the activity, and can also be found on the menu.

If a student completes all 7 principles, they can take the final cumulative quiz to earn the Ocean Champion badge, acknowledging their completion of the ocean literacy course. This is an example of what the content looks like on one of the principles:



Resources

Throughout the course, students and teachers will use a number of the **Classroom tools**. Classrooms tools are found on the lower half of the menu on the left-hand side of the scree, and are available to use at all times.



Teacher Resources

This section contains lesson plans, activities, games and external resources that are used throughout the course. It also contains additional resources that can be added to any or all portions of the course, to allow teachers variety and a way to customize the program to their own, or the class's, specific needs. All documents can be downloaded in PDF format, and are available to use at any time.

Discussion

Here students can post short messages in discussion posts related the course. Discussion forums have already been created for the assignments that require a student to post in a discussion. If you are registered as a teacher in the course, you may create extra discussion threads to engage with your students.

Video Gallery

Here you will find folders for each of the 7 literacy principles, containing the videos that were used throughout the course as well as additional videos that you may use to support the content. Some videos are just really cool!

Blogs

Here students can make blog postings about a particular topic in the course. If you are registered as an assistant in the course, you will have the ability to add folders for your class, to keep all submission from your students in one place

Writing

This section is found in the Ocean Literacy Secondary course, where students may post their final written assignment to complete the full Ocean Literacy course. Teachers may create folders for their class, so that all submissions are kept in one place and accessible for marking.

Quizzes

Here you will find all of the quizzes in the course. Just click on the quiz you want to start. The badge will be automatically rewarded once the quiz is completed. All quizzes can be attempted multiple times by students, but the badge can only be earned once.

Maps

In this section, students and teacher can add locations, as well as descriptions, to the maps. This may be part of an assignment, or an activity to connect the online community. Assistants may also create new maps for their students.

Participants

Here you will find the list of participants who are registered in the course. Each student and teacher has their own profile with the site, as shown below. The profile will have the student's name and hometown, as well as the option to add additional information. It will also list recent activity of each student, so teachers can see what submissions the student has made.

Marking and Grades

Quizzes will automatically be graded upon completion. Students would automatically receive badges upon completion of the quiz.

By submitting blogs, discussion posts or written assignments that are linked to specific assignments in the course, Elementary and Middle school students will automatically earn the assignment badge once the submission has been made. Secondary students will only earn the principle badge upon completing all associated assignments and quizzes.

Grading the content of a post can be done at the teacher's discretion, outside of the online learning environment. Teachers will be able to read all discussion posts, blogs or written assignments made by students.

About the Course

We want everyone, especially youth, to understand and care for our oceans. The Ocean Literacy course was created based on the ocean literacy principles designed by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Association (NOAA). The purpose of the course is to provide an educational and interactive resource for students and teachers alike to improve their knowledge of the ocean. By completing this course students will leave with an understanding that the ocean provides us with resources and the necessities for life, and in turn human action has a lasting effect on the ocean.

The Ocean Literacy Framework was developed by many scientists and educators from the ocean sciences education community. Their efforts built on previous work to define ocean literacy, assess what the public knows about the ocean, and redress the lack of ocean-related content in state and national science education standards, instructional materials and assessments. Explore the Foundations section to learn about how the ocean sciences education community came together to create these documents and ignite a movement within ocean sciences and beyond.

There are 7 key principles that the ocean Literacy course follows:

- The Earth has one big ocean with many features
- The ocean and life in the ocean shape the features of the earth
- The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate
- The ocean made the Earth habitable
- The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems

- The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected
- The ocean is largely unexplored

These Ocean Literacy Principles are correlated to the United States National Science Education Standards (NSES) Science Content Standards

Contact

For questions, comments or feedback about the course, please contact our Online Learning Team at onlinelearning@ocean.org