

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

Moving as a School

Lesson Plan for *Fish*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students recall key details about the movement of schools of fish.

Things Needed

- *Fish* book
- A large, clear area for an active game
- Access to the “Fish” web page on the Pop! website:
<https://popbooksonline.com/pets/fish>

Before the Activity

Open the “Fish” web page in your internet browser and pull up the “Watch a Video” tab.

Activity

Read *Fish* out loud to students. Then watch the video and read the caption on the web page. Ask students the following questions:

- What is a school of fish? (Answer: a group of fish that swim together)
- What body part helps fish swim together? (Answer: the lateral line)
- Where is the lateral line located? (Answer: along each side of a fish’s body)
- How does the lateral line help fish swim in schools? (Answer: This organ senses changes in the water. It can sense when the fish is getting too close to other fish. It stops fish from running into one another.)

Explain to students that they will pretend to be a school of fish. Have students stand in a line and touch hands. Students should spread out so that their arms extend straight out from their sides. But they should keep their palms touching. Explain that as one person in the line moves, that movement will ripple down the line. To keep from bumping into one another, students should keep their arms straight instead of bending them.



Have the student at one end of the line move toward the next person. That person should move away to keep his or her arm straight, causing the next student to move, and the next, on down the line. Invite students to explore moving as a group without bumping into one another.

Evaluation

Could students answer questions about schools of fish and lateral lines? Could students work together as a group to explore moving like a school of fish would?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the National Science Education Standards' Content Standard C, grades K–4, and the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.1).

