



School-Home Connection

Your child is reading “Dive! My Adventures in the Deep Frontier” by Sylvia A. Earle. This is a nonfiction account of Earle’s deep water diving experiences. Earle wears a heavy-duty commercial diving suit called Jim, named after the first diver to try it, Jim Jarrett. This special pressure suit enables her to descend to a depth of 1,250 feet. She wants to go deeper and, with the help of friends, designs and builds a special submersible called Deep Rover that can take her down to a depth of 3,000 feet. Earle describes all the wonderful sea life she encounters: sponges, jellies, worms, mollusks, starfish, turtles, and whales. She is not entirely surprised when she encounters, at the maximum depth, what she believes to be a strange and rare sea creature, which actually turns out to be a soda can.

History of Submarines

Visit your local library and read about the history of submarines and their uses. You may also want to borrow a video that shows underwater sea life. Talk with your child about the importance of building machines that can explore life under the sea.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary of the Day

The words listed below are new vocabulary your child learned while reading “Dive! My Adventures in the Deep Frontier”:

gauge	buoyancy	acoustic
salvage	dissipate	abounded
diversity		

Discuss the meanings of these words. Every day for the next seven days, have your child choose a word for the day. During the day, both of you can try to use it in sentences.



TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

Clean-Up Day

In the selection, Sylvia Earle finds a soda can far down in the ocean’s depths. Sometimes these cans become homes for sea creatures, but often they are just eyesores. During an upcoming dinner, discuss how litter destroys the natural beauty of these places and causes pollution. Then find out which groups in your community manage clean-up or recycling projects. Learn more about these organizations and the projects they do. Then, if an opportunity arises, work together on one of their projects.

