

Night Snorkel in Emerald Lagoon

Grade Level: All

Summary: The community of organisms observed while snorkeling at night is vastly different than the community seen during the day. Specific adaptations allow these organisms to live and survive nocturnally. Students will have the opportunity to observe these adaptations firsthand during an evening snorkel in Jules' Emerald Lagoon.

Program Objectives:

- Students will have the opportunity to experience being in the water after the sun has gone down
- Students will observe nocturnal community and the adaptations they require

Concepts Covered:

- Nocturnal versus diurnal communities
- Adaptations of common nocturnal organisms: bioluminescence, eye adaptations, sound, species-specific adaptations such as parrotfish cocoons
- Common behaviors of diurnal organisms after sunset
- Night snorkeling

Vocabulary: nocturnal, diurnal, bioluminescence, adaptation, cones/rods, counterillumination, compound eyes, tapetum lucidum

Procedures: Program begins with a short discussion about the concepts and vocabulary listed above. Instructor will then go over proper night snorkeling guidelines and techniques and review some of the organisms students can specifically look for while in the Emerald Lagoon.

Extensions:

Resources:



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