Enhancement: Activity
Oceanography Through Time

For more than two centuries, scientists and explorers have been throwing nets over the sides of ships trying to collect data “snapshots” to help them make assumptions about the ocean. Until the advent of the coastal and ocean observing system networks, studying the ocean was severely limited by available ships, time, money and weather. Nonetheless, the old ways of oceanography helped get us where we are today -- able to monitor real-time ocean data from anywhere in the world via the Internet. Use this timeline to explore where we have been and where we are going in terms of ocean exploration.

Materials:
Internet access
Student Worksheet

Procedure:
Visit the Web site:
http://www.coolclassroom.org/cool_projects/lessons/miniunits/lesson2.html
and answer the questions on the worksheet. Worksheet is downloadable on the site and is also included in this binder.
**Worksheet: Oceanography Through Time**

**Note:** This following questions are for use with the COOL Classroom Web site: [http://www.coolclassroom.org/cool_projects/lessons/miniunits/lesson2.html](http://www.coolclassroom.org/cool_projects/lessons/miniunits/lesson2.html)

The worksheet is also downloadable at the site.

1. Why do you think it is important to study the ocean?
   
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2. Click on the thumbnail image of the timeline or on “The Evolution of Oceanography”. Explore the ways people have interacted with the ocean over time. Why do you think early explorers were interested in navigating the ocean?
   
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3. Studying the ocean is difficult. List the reasons why:
   
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4. When did people start exploring the ocean for scientific purposes?
   
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Continued

Worksheet:
Oceanography
Through Time

5. List three major events in the twentieth century that you think were most important to the evolution of ocean science. Explain why you think so:

A. __________________________________________
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B. __________________________________________
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C. __________________________________________
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