

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

Overlapping Information

Lesson Plan for *Starfish*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students use a Venn diagram to identify the similarities and differences between two texts about starfish regeneration.

Things Needed

- *Starfish* book
- Whiteboard
- Access to the “Starfish” web page on the Pop! website:
<https://popbooksonline.com/ocean-animals/starfish>

Before the Activity

Open the “Starfish” web page in your internet browser. Pull up the “Learn More” tab on the website. Draw a Venn diagram on the whiteboard. Label one circle “Book.” Label the other circle “Online.”

Activity

Read *Starfish* out loud to students. To start, review the meaning of the word *regeneration*, reminding students to check the glossary on page 23 if they don’t remember. Write this word and its meaning on the whiteboard:

- regeneration: the process of growing new body parts

Explain to students that they will read two texts about starfish regeneration. Some of the information in the two texts will be similar. Some will be different. Students can use a Venn diagram to compare the information in the two texts. A Venn diagram is a drawing of two circles. Each circle stands for one of the two objects being compared. In this case, one circle stands for the book, and the other stands for the online text.

Turn to pages 18 and 19. Have a student read the text on these pages. Ask the following question and write students’ answers in the circle labeled “Book”:



- What details did we learn from these pages? (Possible Answers: Fish might attack a starfish and bite off one of its arms. The starfish leaves the arm behind. It can survive without it. It will just grow a new arm.)

Then, have students read the text and look at the image on the “Learn More” tab on the Pop! website. Ask the following question and write students’ answers in the circle labeled “Online”:

- What details did we learn from this website? (Possible Answers: Starfish can grow new arms. Most starfish need a healthy body to do so. Some starfish can grow whole new bodies. A full starfish can grow from a single arm.)

Point to where the circles in the Venn diagram overlap. Explain to students that this place shows the information that appears in both texts. Ask students the following question:

- Is there any information that appeared in both the book and the online text? (Answer: Yes—that starfish can grow new arms.)

Erase that piece of information from both circles and rewrite it in the place where the two circles overlap. Explain to students that the Venn diagram now shows both the similarities between the two texts (in the overlapping area) and the differences between the two texts (in the rest of each circle).

Evaluation

Could students identify the similarities and differences between two texts about starfish regeneration? Could students use the structure of a Venn diagram to help them?

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 1.3, 1.4).

