amcor Education Series

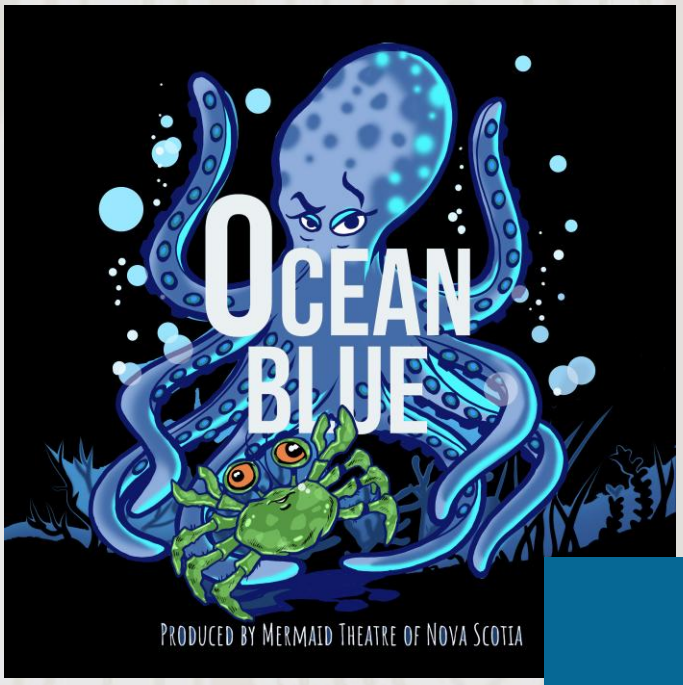
2026-27 Season

## 2026-27 Educator Resource Guide

### Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's

# Ocean Blue

Feb. 18, 2027 – 9:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.




With a variety of options allowing your students to explore their connection to the world, this season's Amcor Education Series has a show for everyone.

Thank you for allowing the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center to partner with you to provide your students with engaging educational arts experiences.

For any questions, contact the education sales team at (920) 730-3786 or educationsales@foxcitiespac.com

FOX CITIES PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

*Where the Arts Come Alive!*

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Education Series Title Partner: amcor | Education Series Co-Partners: Kimberly-Clark, Miller, SCHNEIDER

# Thank you to our partners for making this performance possible!

### Education Series Title Partner

amcor

### Education Series Co-Partners

Kimberly-Clark

Miller

SCHNEIDER

## A note from Amcor, Series Title Partner:

At Amcor, we make the packaging you use every day on your food and beverages, healthcare products, personal care items and more! As a global leader in packaging design and material science, Amcor is proud to sponsor programs in STEM education and the arts in the communities where we have operations. We are thrilled to support the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center and their efforts to provide enriching educational programming for young people in our area. Enjoy the show!

# Welcome to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center!



When entering the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, remember to **show respect for others and your environment** so everyone can fully enjoy and participate in the experience.

- During the performance, the performers can see and hear you, so give them your full attention. Unlike a video, we can not rewind and replay a scene if we miss it.
- **Applause** is the best way to express how much you enjoyed the performance! For other Theater Expectations tips, visit foxcitiespac.com.

**Important things to remember:**

- Student backpacks, gum, drinks and food are not allowed in the theater.
- Cell phones should be turned off and stowed.
- Note that recording or taking photos in the theater is strictly prohibited; however, photos may be taken in the lobby.
- It's a long way down – please do not drop items off balconies.

**Be prepared to arrive early**

- You should plan on arriving to the Center 20 minutes before the show. Allow for travel time, parking and trips to the restroom.

**Health and Safety**

- The Center has created a touchless experience with the Evolv Express Security System. Upon entry, all bags entering the building are subject to search and prohibited items will not be allowed.
- Teachers and chaperones are discouraged from bringing bags, however, necessary backpacks or bags may be searched and tagged before being allowed in the theater.
- We ask the students leave their backpacks at school for Amcor Education Series performances. However, if students do bring them, they are subject to search and will need to be checked at the registration table in the lobby upon entry.
- Please see our complete list of policies at foxcitiespac.com.

**Accessibility Services**

- To best serve the needs of you and your students, please indicate if you have individuals who require special services or seating needs upon making your reservation.

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# About the Show

Get swept away by the mystery and majesty of Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's stunning new production, *Ocean Blue*, as the unknowable depths of our oceans come to life with spectacular puppetry, immersive design, and heartwarming storytelling. From chilly Arctic waters where walruses lounge to sun-dappled seas where baby belugas dance, *Ocean Blue* is a vibrant celebration of marine ecosystems and the extraordinary creatures that call them home.

# Wisconsin Academic Standards

**ART AND DESIGN**

- **A.A.Cn.1.e: Interdisciplinary:** Recognize and demonstrate relationships between art and design, and other disciplines.

**SCIENCE**

- **SCI.ESS2.C.2:** Water is found in many types of places and in different forms on Earth.
- **SCI.ESS2.E.K:** Plants and animals can change their local environment.
- **SCI.LS2:** Students use science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and an understanding of interactions, energy, and dynamics withing ecosystems to make sense of phenomena and solve problems.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

- **SS.BH1:** Wisconsin students will examine individual cognition, perception, behavior, and identity (Psychology).

**THEATER**

- **TP.R.1.e: Analysis:** Respond to a theatrical work by sharing what is seen, heard, and/or felt.
- **TP.R.3.e: View Performance:** Demonstrate developmentally appropriate audience etiquette.
- **TP.Cn.1.e: Cultural Social Context:** Express how theater relates to self and others.
- **TP.Cn.4.e: Cross Disciplinary:** Describe how theater connects to art and music.

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# Lesson One

**Objective:** Students will watch a video about the ocean, and identify animals that live there.

**Materials:**
- Coloring utensils
- Plain paper
- YouTube video by Scholastic: https://youtu.be/OzzmjlKFYyY?si=W1nd5rTwMSK-4s3B

**Activity:**
- Leading question: Who knows what the ocean is? Let your students answer, and tell them they're going to watch a video about the ocean and the animals that live there.
- Play video by Scholastic.
    - At the end of the video, they ask what animals the students noticed live in the ocean. Let the students discuss which animals they noticed. (Ex: crabs, whales, sharks, fish, coral, turtles, etc.)
- There are so many animals that live in the ocean! Explain to the students when they come to the Center for the performance of *Ocean Blue*, there will be puppets of some of these animals!
- Ask your students to draw their favorite ocean animal from the video.

## In the Spotlight! – Fun Ocean Animal Facts

- Jellyfish have been in Earth's oceans for over 500 million years – longer than the dinosaurs.
- Jellyfish do not have brains, heart or lungs.
- The lifespan of turtles can range 50-90 years old.
- Turtles do not have teeth; they have beaks and strong jaws to eat their food.
- Turtles cannot breathe underwater but can hold their breath for several hours.
- Sharks have been around for about 400 million years! Almost as much as the jellyfish.
- Sharks are in all the world's oceans, and some sharks like the bull shark are even found in some rivers.

Information taken from: https://www.mcsuk.org/ocean-learning/ocean-facts-stats/

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# Lesson Two

**Objective:** Students will promote the importance of ecological sustainability in regard to the ocean.

**Materials:**

- Blank Paper
- Coloring Utensils
- PBS Video – Kids Go Green: Litter and Our Oceans: https://wisconsin.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/ee18-sci-waterpol/kids-go-green-litter-and-our-oceans/

**Activity:**

- Opening discussion question: Why are the oceans important to the Earth and humans? Ask your students this question and record their answers on the board.
- Ask your students: What is something you do that is good for the environment? Record their answers on the board.
- Explain to your students they are going to see a performance about various ocean species. Right now, the ocean needs help!
- Show your students the video. The video gives three main ways everyone can help the ocean; they are:
    - Recycling
    - Using reusable materials and participating in clean-ups
- Make a poster! Have your students create a poster with their idea about, "One thing people can do to protect the ocean is…" This can be done in a group or individually.

## What's Next? Here are some discussion points!

- What kinds of animals did you see in the performance?
- How did the music in the show help enhance the performance?
- This performance used a lot of puppets; how did they move the puppets to make them look like animals in the water?
- What connections did you make from the performance to your life?
- If you were going to tell a friend about the performance, how would you describe it in one sentence?
- What inspired you about the performance?

# Resources

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## Books

- "Ocean: A Peek-Through Picture Book" by Britta Tekentrup
- "Ocean Animals: Who's Who in the Deep Blue" by Johanna Rizzo
- "Pete the Cat: Scuba Cat" by James Dean
- "National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of the Ocean" by Catherine D. Hughes and National Geographic Kids
- "Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist" by Jess Keating
- "The Magic School Bus on the Ocean Floor" by Joanna Cole

## Websites

- Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia Website: https://mermaidtheatre.ca/
- Monterey Bay Aquarium – Ocean Animal Crafts & Printables for Kids: https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals-the-ocean/crafts-printables
- National Geographic Kids – Everything Oceans: https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/videos/topic/everything-oceans
- National Geographic Kids – Sea Life Facts: https://www.natgeokids.com/ie/category/discover/animals/sea-life/
- National Ocean Service – For Kids Activities and Resources: https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/kids/
- Smithsonian: Ocean – Find Your Blue Educator's Corner: https://ocean.si.edu/educators-corner
- Wild Kratts Ocean Animals: https://pbskids.org/videos/playlist/wild-kratts-ocean-animals/1621948

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# Student Showcase




**Did your students enjoy their experience? We would love to hear from you with photos, letters, posters or cards to share what your students learned with our partners.**

The Center's education programs are not possible without the support of our Annual Partners and grant funders. They enjoy learning about the schools and students that participate in the education programs, and we would appreciate your help in telling the story.

Items may be sent via email to sstelzl@foxcitiespac.com or mailed/dropped off at:
Fox Cities Performing Arts Center
Attn: Sammi Stelzl
400 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI 54911

Thank you for your help in sharing the great work you are doing in the classroom with our partners!

***Please note items will not be returned and will be shared with our partners and/or used in Center marketing materials.***

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This resource guide was created for you by the programming team as part of the Amcor Education Series. To download copies of this resource guide or to find additional resources for this performance or view past resource guides, please visit foxcitiespac.com/education.

**Fox Cities Performing Arts Center**
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**education@foxcitiespac.com**

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