



# Explore the Beach!

## Underwater Viewer

Materials: yogurt container, clear plastic wrap, scissors, rubber band or glue

Have an adult cut out the bottom of the yogurt container with scissors – this is the end you will look through. Cover the other end with clear plastic wrap and secure it with a rubber band or glue. Then take it to the beach and try it out! Put the end with the plastic wrap covering in the water and look through – what can you see?



## Sand Up Close

A magnifying glass is a great tool to have in your beach bag. Put a handful of sand on a white paper plate or napkin and look at it up close. What colors and shapes do you see? Is every grain the same? Are there patches of different colored sand on your beach? Grains of sand come from larger rocks worn down over time by the wind and waves. Their color depends on the minerals in the original rock.

## I Spy with my little eye....

Hanging out at the shore can provide lots of opportunities to observe with your senses. I Spy is a simple way to encourage exploration. Look for boats, buoys, and birds. Discover crabs, clams, and various colors of sea weed. Listen for crashing of waves and lifeguard whistles. Feel the wind and smell salt in the air.



## Your Very Own Shell

Collect 10 – 15 shells that are from the same animal. Have everyone in your group choose one shell to observe closely. What do you notice about your shell? Are there any special marks or colors on your shell? How big is it compared to your little finger? Then mix all the shells together again. Can you find your very own shell?