

Nature of Science and Math

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The Nature of Science and Math:
Analyzing the Presence in Everyday Communication

Tammi Deines

Adams State University

The article I have chosen to investigate is To Map a Coral Reef: Peel Back the Seawater by Paul Tullis. I found the article in the New York Times. It caught my eye because I have always been interested in the coral reefs and ocean life. This article describes how a team of scientists are trying to help overcome the obstacles found in studying the coral reefs. The main problem is that there is too much ocean above the reefs to study them closely.

Part A: Nature of Science

1. Science is a Way of Knowing. I felt this article covered this area because it is telling the readers how they are trying to gain knowledge about parts of the world that we know very little about. They first started their project with working with forests and soon realized they could do the same with the oceans.
2. Science is a Human Endeavor. This is also covered because we have men and women working together to solve scientific problems. They also starts with the forests of Peru and South Africa. They were trying to help with lion habitats. Then they moved to the coral reefs around the world.

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3. Science Addresses Questions about the Natural and Material World. The scientists in this article took an interest that they already had and reevaluated what they wanted to learn about the reefs and then adjusted their studies to help them learn more about the ocean.

Part B: Common Core Math Practices:

1. Reason abstractly and quantitatively. By probing to find the different layers of ocean they could determine how they could get the best results for looking at the coral reefs. They took the data and continued to refine what they were doing until they got results they were looking for.
2. Attend to precision. They did many different trials to help them continue to go down further the ocean to observe. They had known calculate accurately each time and make the correct changes when necessary.
3. Use of appropriate tools. They first started using sonar to help study the coral reefs but that took to long for them to gather data. The decided to use their instruments on the bottom of a low flying airplane. They were able to map the coral reefs down to 50 ft. Also the were able to map up to 250,000 acres a day which was a lot more area covered in a shorter time period.

References

Tullis, P. (2019). The New York Times. Retrieved from

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/10/science/coral-reefs-mapping-biodiversity.html>