

V.A.S.* cruise

Issue 4

Day 4

DISCOVERY PAPER



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The general scientific objectives of V.A.S cruise are to study the physical and chemical properties of phytoplankton and the biological characteristics.

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Free subject

very amazing ship



Once the Black Sea, the largest landlocked sea in the world, was one of the most bountiful fisheries, easily supporting the many civilizations that grew up on its shores. Industrialization and regional population explosion have caused overfishing, eutrophication (the introduction of excessive nutrients into a body of water, encouraging increased algal growth and further decreasing the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the water), and the flow of chemical and radioactive poisons into the sea. Now this body of water, once an important source of food and recreation, is in danger of becoming a toxic and nearly lifeless place, an ecological disaster with few peers. .

• **Experiment:**

Today we tried to estimate the sea temperature in different moments of the day.

Plankton consist of any drifting organisms (animals, plants, archaea, or bacteria) that inhabit the pelagic zone of oceans, seas, or bodies of fresh water. Plankton are defined by their ecological niche rather than their phylogenetic or taxonomic classification. They provide a crucial source of food to more familiar aquatic organisms such as fish.



We consider this the best picture taken because it reveals the involvement of children for science and ecological problems. In the future we hope that young people will be the key of solving the present ecological problems.

Interview

Message from the youngsters:
Good luck on your research!



R – reporter

S – scientist

R: Welcome to our ship, beautiful morning, isn't it ? I'm Jennie Holston, the reporter from V.A.S.

S: Nice to meet you, I'm Jack Nicholson, scientist for S.B.S – Studies of Black Sea. Very delighted to be here, on your ship.

R: It's an honour to have you here, Jack. So, shall we start with some interviewing fun ?

S: Lets go !

R: So Jack, do the youngsters on land have a message for us, the scientists at sea ?

S: Oh yes, they actually have quite a lot to tell you, but basically they want you to know that they trust you and wish you good luck in everything you want to succeed. They are always thinking of you and your achievement and hope for improvement for you. They are very pleased with your observations and your results by far, your new discoveries which are extremely useful for their studies, they thank you a lot and they wish you only well. Over all : “ Keep up the good work, you're doing fantastic ! “

R: That's so nice of them ! And tell me, Jack, how does your class imagine the seashore in 50 years ?

S: That's a good question. Well, they are aware of the present situation and that the conditions there are become worse and worse with all that rubbish which people throw on the shore, and because nobody cleans at least a little, but they are very optimistic and they plan to make a team and gain people on their side which at least once at a couple of weeks they spread on the seashore and clean it up, repair damages and mentain the space around, so from this point of view, if they they succeed, they imagine the seashore in 50 years almost perfect !

R: Very optimistic, indeed. Well, that was all. Thank you so much. We expect you on the V.A.S. anytime you want. Have a nice day !

S: It was my pleasure. You too! Bye.

Our class hopes the sea-shore will be changed in a good way.



The ride of the cruise



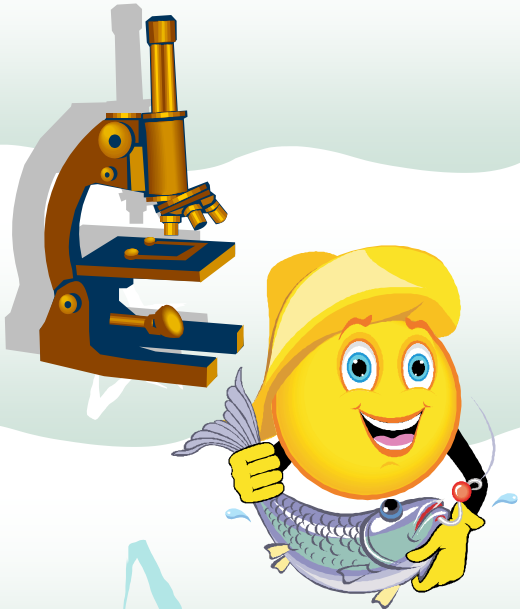


Weather forecast

Hello! We greet you from the ship V.A.S. Despite the fact that the weather is not exactly as we hoped, we continue our trip with full enthusiasm. Wind blows with about 45 km / h, but the sky is quite clear. We heard that at shore the situation isn't better, the waves crashing with power the rocks. Until tomorrow, the situation looks like it will improve. The weathermen announced the improvement of the weather and the decrease of the wind intensity.

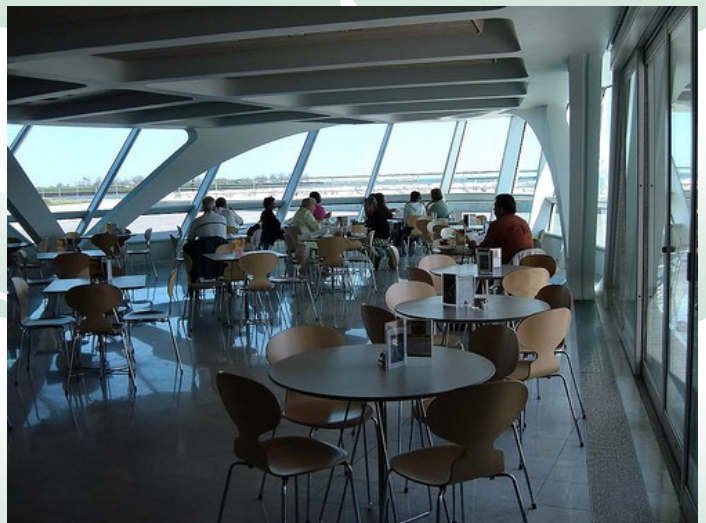
Menu of the day

Although unfavorable, the weather conditions have had an advantage regarding the menu of the day. The wind has brought a lot of fish like and the tastiest are now on our tables. Some of the species found are: frog fish, needle fish and herring. Besides fish, we ate rice or polenta at our choice. Dessert was what we wanted so much, because we defrosted a cake from our boat fridge. We hope that tomorrow the sea will be



News flash

Otherwise, everything is fine, in the morning we wake up full of energy for a new day. Usually, we are fishing or we relax and enjoy the beautiful sunny days, but the crew doesn't forget to write down the most important observations about life at sea and also to take photos.



Name and address of the class: 9B4 , "Ovidius" Highschool Constanta, Romania, 2, Basarabi street, 900710

Age—15-16 years old

Number of students: 14

Coordinating teacher: Carmen Bucovala