



## Marine Biology • Study Guide

Jonathan visits the School for Field Studies in the Turks & Caicos Islands to learn how college students conduct field work in their pursuit of degrees in marine studies. He helps tag sharks, study conch and investigate marine protected areas!

### Objectives

1. Introduces viewers to some of the methods marine biologists use in the study of marine life.
2. Introduces several species of marine life including Lemon sharks and conch.
3. Introduces the marine protected area and how it is studied.

### Questions for before watching the program

1. What is a marine protected area? How can it help people?
2. What do marine biologists study?
3. What is a conch? (By the way, it's pronounced "konk") Why is the conch so important?
4. What is a mangrove? What kind of fish live in mangroves?

### Discussion for after watching the program

1. What is the purpose of catching and tagging sharks? What can be learned about them and how?
2. A small tissue sample is taken from sharks for isotope analysis. Internet research: what is that and how can it show what the sharks are eating?
3. What is a *transect* and how is it used to study fish populations?
4. Why were the students counting fish with a transect? (Hint: something to do with the marine protected area).
5. Why was one of the students trying to find a way to measure the size of a conch without its shell?
6. Where did the students catch the baby Lemon sharks and why are they there?
7. Why do the students measure and catalog the fish that fishermen were catching?
8. If you were going to be a marine biologist, what would you like to study?