

# COUSTEAU *kids*

EXPLORING NATURE AND SCIENCE AROUND THE WORLD

## May/June 2010 Teacher's Guide



In this issue of *Cousteau Kids*, students will read about:

- ▶ Jacques Cousteau's red cap
- ▶ important events in Jacques Cousteau's life
- ▶ an island named after Jacques Cousteau
- ▶ the Siamese fighting fish
- ▶ *Cousteau Kids* cover contest entries

# JACQUES COUSTEAU'S RED CAP

## Key Words:

**predecessors:** people in a position or place before others

**pioneers:** people who begin or invent a new way of doing something

**vital:** important for carrying on life

**maneuvered:** moved in a certain position or place

**ascent:** moving up or rising

## Before reading:

Tell students that they will read about why Jacques Cousteau wore a red, knit cap. For a prereading activity, ask students to check a box beside each sentence if they think it is one of the reasons why Jacques Cousteau and his team wore their famous red caps. (See student activity.)

- 1. Red is Jacques Cousteau's favorite color.
- 2. Knit caps keep your head warm.
- 3. Red caps looked good when photographed.
- 4. Knit caps are very comfortable.
- 5. Knit caps don't blow off your head.
- 6. Red caps were the only hats the team had on the ship.
- 7. Knit caps protect your head.
- 8. Red caps were worn by the very first divers.

## During reading:

The answer to the red cap question is in Jacques Cousteau's own words. We've rewritten some of the sentences to help students.

Instruct students to fill in the missing words.

1. Jacques Cousteau wore a red cap because it wouldn't blow off in a \_\_\_\_\_ wind.
2. He also wore a red cap to honor the divers called "\_\_\_\_\_ hats."
3. Hard hats were underwater divers who wore a \_\_\_\_\_ on their head.
4. They also wore weights on their \_\_\_\_\_.
5. They are called diving pioneers because they were the \_\_\_\_\_ underwater divers.
6. The hard hats didn't have scuba gear. They wore a safety rope. They also breathed \_\_\_\_\_ that was pumped through a hose from above the water.
7. Inside their helmets was a very important part called a \_\_\_\_\_. It let the divers breathe in air but it had to be used in the right way. Without it, the divers could \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The first divers wore a red cap to \_\_\_\_\_ their head and prevent \_\_\_\_\_.

## After reading:

Ask students to write down a word that describes the first divers that Jacques Cousteau honored by wearing a red cap. Start with: *brave*

Standard 13

Understands the scientific enterprise  
Knows that people have made contributions to science and technology throughout history

# JACQUES COUSTEAU ISLAND

## Standard 2

Knows the location of places and geographic features

Knows the approximate location of major continents and bodies of water on Earth

### Key Words:

**uninhabited:** having no residents

**peninsula:** a part of land that is surrounded by water but still connected to a larger section of land

### Before reading:

Generate a class list of islands kids know. Have groups research books and the Internet to find out the location and size of each island. Compare the data to the Jacques Cousteau Island (**location:** Sea of Cortez, **size:** 52 square miles, **perimeter:** 42 miles).

### During reading:

Have students copy the Ws chart and use it to organize information as they read. (Answers provided.)

WHO?	Jacques Cousteau
WHAT?	An island was named after Jacques Cousteau.
WHERE?	the Sea of Cortez
WHY?	To honor Captain Cousteau and to make the island a place for researchers to study the ocean and environment.

# THE LIFE OF JACQUES-YVES COUSTEAU

**Standard 1**  
Understands and knows how to analyze chronological relationships  
Knows how to construct time lines in significant historical developments that mark at evenly spaced intervals the years and decades

**Key Words:**

**mischievous:** causing trouble

**regulator:** a special part that controls the amount of something

**minesweeper:** a type of boat that finds mines

**atomic:** something that has to do with the splitting of atoms (made up of protons, neutrons, and electrons)

**propel:** to move or force forward

**Before reading:**

Write out four to five personal events from your own life on separate sentence strips and have students number the events correctly. Tell students they will read a timeline of Jacques Cousteau’s life. A timeline is a list of important events that are written in sequence, or order.

**After reading:**

Ask students to choose the most important event in Jacques Cousteau’s life. (There is no **one** correct answer. ) Ask students to give reasons to support their choice. Examples: Jacques Cousteau’s stay at summer camp was the most important because it was the first time he went underwater. His most important life event was finding *Calypso* because he used the ship on all of his expeditions.

Use the chart below to gather students’ votes for the most important event in Jacques Cousteau’s life. Use tallies to show the number of votes.

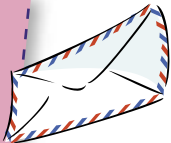
EVENT:	VOTES:
1920: Jacques Cousteau goes to summer camp.	
1943: Jacques Cousteau and Emile Gagnan invent the Aqualung.	
1950: Jacques Cousteau finds <i>Calypso</i> .	
1991: Jacques Cousteau starts writing his environmental “Bill of Rights”.	

**Standards**

Content Knowledge: A Compendium of Standards and Benchmarks for K-12 Education, 4th Edition Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL) and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development  
[www.mcrel.org/compendium/browse.asp](http://www.mcrel.org/compendium/browse.asp)

New York State Math, Science & Technology Standards, The University of the State of New York, The State Education Department [www.emsc.nysed.gov](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov)

Write to Cousteau Kids at:  
Cousteau Kids  
732 Eden Way North  
Suite E, #707  
Chesapeake, VA 23320





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Let's go to JACQUES COUSTEAU ISLAND!

An island in the Sea of Cortes has just been named after Captain Cousteau. The island is near Baja California, which is part of Mexico.

**Directions:** After you read the article on pages 6 and 7, complete this organizer to show what you learned.

**LIST**  
four kinds of fishes that swim around Jacques Cousteau Island:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**DRAW**  
what a peninsula looks like. Be sure to label your drawing.

**EXPLAIN**  
Give reasons why having an island named after Jacques Cousteau is a BIG deal!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## The Life of JACQUES-YVES COUSTEAU

When Jacques Cousteau first started diving, people didn't know much about the ocean. His films and television shows let people see for themselves the beauty of the ocean. For most people, it was the first time they had seen such amazing and mysterious sea creatures. Jacques Cousteau brought attention to animals in danger, the effects of pollution, and why we should protect the ocean. He explored the ocean for more than 50 years. Although he is gone, he left his mark on the planet forever.

**Directions: Place the mixed-up events of Jacques Cousteau's life in sequence. First, cut out each sentence strip below. Then, glue them in order on a large piece of paper. Next, use a red marker to write the date before each event. Last, draw a picture for each event.**



Jacques Cousteau invents the Aqualung with Emile Gagnan.

Jacques Cousteau writes his book, *The Silent World*.

Jacques Cousteau helps stop the dumping of atomic waste in the Mediterranean

Jacques Cousteau goes to summer camp in the United States. He loves spending time underwater in the camp lake.

Jacques Cousteau gets his famous expedition ship *Calypso*.

Jacques Cousteau builds the first underwater lab.

Jacques Cousteau uses underwater goggles for the first time.

Jacques Cousteau is born in St. André-de-Cubzac, France.

People watch *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau* on TV for the first time.