

## EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

# Submarines: Life Underwater

## Preparation

### Overview and Objectives

This lesson is geared toward students in grades K-5.

The submarine USS Growler (SSG-577) was commissioned on August 30, 1958 and decommissioned on May 25, 1964. *Growler* was a guided missile submarine capable of launching and guiding the Regulus I nuclear missile. This program discusses what it was like to live on a submarine.

This lesson includes a [slideshow](#) in which an instructor can lead participants through an exploration of life on a submarine. The lesson culminates with participants creating a journal entry as if they were a *Growler* crew member.

### Instructional Modalities

This activity was designed for both synchronous or asynchronous instruction.

For **synchronous instruction**, we recommend a platform that allows both for whole class discussion and for students to interact in small groups.

For **asynchronous adaptations**, we provide suggestions for teachers to provide additional support for the activities and for students to share their work with each other.

### Materials

- [Submarines: Life Underwater Slideshow](#)
- [Activity Sheets](#)
- Paper
- Writing Utensils

### Discussion Questions

How do we adapt to challenging situations?

What is challenging about sharing a space with others?

What helps you relax?

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## Lesson

### 1. Introductory Activity

- Ask Participants:
  - **What is a submarine?**
  - **What can submarines do that makes them special?**
  - Discuss the responses with the group.

### 2. Core Activity

- Share [video](#) of the submarine *Growler* and discuss the job of the submarine.
  - **Growler had to stay underwater for a long period of time. What might that mean for the people living and working on the submarine?**
- Ask participants if they ever had to stay in one place for a long period of time. Have them share what was difficult about that process
- Share two videos on water and sanitation and sleeping arrangements of *Growler*. Have participants share what challenges submariners on *Growler* might face.
  - **What might be frustrating for a submariner on *Growler*?**
  - **What could be some solutions to some of the challenges they face?**
  - **What are some things you like to do when faced with a challenge?**
  - **Share an experience where you had to compromise.**
- Review how submariners relax on the submarine *Growler*.
  - **Why is having time to relax important in a place like *Growler*?**
  - **What are some things you do to relax?**
- Have participants create a journal imagining that they are part of the *Growler* crew. In their journal entry, they should share a story involving some issues they may have living in a shared space like *Growler*. In your story, include a solution to that problem. Once participants finish their journal entries, have them share out.
  - **What problems did you face in your journal entry?**

- **What were some solutions to those problems?**
- **How could we apply these solutions to situations in our everyday lives?**

## Asynchronous Adaptation

Have participants go through the [slideshow](#) on their own. Using their [activity sheet](#), participants can respond to questions about life on *Growler* and write journal entries as *Growler* crewmembers. Have participants share their journal entries using Flipgrid.

## Extension Activities

To deepen student engagement with this content, you may choose to add the following activities :

### **Compare Growler to Intrepid**

Have participants compare what life may have been like living in a submarine like *Growler* versus an aircraft carrier like *Intrepid*. Participants can explore this [virtual exhibition](#) to learn more about *Intrepid* and write a journal entry from the perspective of an *Intrepid* crewmember

### **Keep a Journal for a Week**

Have participants write in a journal every day for a week and identify different problems they faced and share how they solved those problems. Participants can then meet with a peer and share one or two problems and discuss alternative ways to address them.

## Additional Resources/ References

### **More information on the submarine Growler:**

<https://www.intrepidmuseum.org/The-Intrepid-Experience/Exhibits/submarine-growler>

### **Information on Growler's sail:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNmv0R5BnVI>

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## ACTIVITY 1: VIDEO REFLECTION

Directions:

Watch the videos on [slide 7](#) and identify some challenges for submariners living on *Crowler* in the spaces provided below..

Video	Challenges	Potential Solution(s)
Water and Sanitation		
Sleeping		

**1. What are some things you like to do when faced with a challenge?**

