Ocean Water Chemistry Activity

Objective: Students will learn to identify salinity, gas content and temperature of ocean water. Students will learn to describe how ocean conditions change with depth.

Part 1: Using pages 127-131, define the following terms: salinity, gas content, submersible.

Part 2: Students will sketch, label and define figure 13 "Composition of Ocean Water."

Part 3: On a separate piece of computer paper, construct a model of "The Water Column" using page 130 in your textbook.

Part 4: Answer the following questions using pages 127-131.

1. What are the two sources of oxygen in the ocean water?
2. What is the salinity of ocean water?
3. How do temperature and pressure change as you descend the surface to the ocean floor?
4. Describe one factor that increases the salinity of seawater and one factor that decreases salinity.
5. Would you expect the seawater just below the floating ice in the Arctic Ocean to be higher or lower in salinity than the water in the deep zone there? Explain.