



Science Journal for Kids: A Year of Growth

2016 Impact Report



By [Tanya Dimitrova](#), Founder and Editor-in-Chief.

A Year in Review

Who are we?

- + [Science Journal for Kids](#) is an online science magazine where we publish cutting edge peer-reviewed environmental science research adapted for students (and their teachers)
- + Science Journal for Kids is a [501\(c\)3 registered non-profit organization](#) created in 2015 with a non-commercial public outreach goal.
- + Our mission is to make the latest scientific discoveries available to the general audience (especially children) and to improve the public's understanding of the scientific method.

Essentially, we convert this...

...into that!

Environmental Research Letters

LETTER

Condition of larval red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) relative to environmental variability and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill

F.J. Hernandez Jr.¹, J.E. Filbrun^{1,2}, J. Fang^{2,3} and J.T. Ransom^{1,4}

Abstract

The Deepwater Horizon oil spill (DWHOS) spatially and temporally overlapped with the spawning of many fish species, including Red Snapper, one of the most economically important reef fish in the Gulf of Mexico. To investigate potential impacts of the DWHOS on larval Red Snapper, data from a long-term ichthyoplankton survey off the coast of Alabama were used to examine: (1) larval abundances among pre-impact (2007–2009), impact (2010), and post-impact (2011, 2013) periods; (2) proxies for larval condition (size-adjusted morphometric relationships and dry weight) among the same periods; and (3) the effects of background environmental variation on larval condition. We found that larval Red Snapper were in poorer body condition during 2010, 2011, and 2013 as

What do baby fish make of oil spills?

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE JOURNAL TEENS

Abstract

Since people started drilling for oil there have been accidental oil spills at sea that are harmful to marine life. For instance, birds and other animals get covered in the thick oil and many die as a result. Although some of the negative impacts of oil spills are immediately noticeable, the long-term effects on animals like fish are less certain. Therefore, we wanted to determine what effect a major oil spill can have on the number and "health" of recently hatched fish (larva is singular, larvae is plural) in a marine environment.

We studied the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill (DWHOS) and found that the number of Red Snapper larvae did not change before, during, and after the spill but the health of larvae was poorer after the accident. Although we cannot conclude that the oil spill caused this decrease in health, we think that some combination of factors that coincided with the event negatively impacted larval Red Snapper.

Introduction

Oil spilled out of the Deepwater Horizon for 87 days and it spread for 40,000km². That's an area 10 times the size of Rhode Island.

What did we accomplish in 2016?

- + We published [13 adapted science articles](#) (compared to six in 2015).
- + Just in [November](#) and [December](#) 2016 we published three articles per month and we are still ramping up.
- + We covered the scope of the entire [AP Environmental Science](#) curriculum – a comprehensive list of interdisciplinary topics ranging from *climate, pollution, agriculture, population dynamics, atmospheric studies, biodiversity conservation to infectious diseases*.

Who published in the Journal?

- + We adapted academic papers from leading peer-reviewed journals like [PLOS One](#), [IOP Environmental Research Letters](#), [Nature Climate Change](#), [AGU Geophysical Research Letters](#) and [Global Change Biology](#).
- + We collaborated with scientists from research institutions like UC Berkeley, Duke, Cornell, Yale, NASA, JPL, NOAA, Imperial College London, University of Melbourne, University of Tokyo. (See a full list [here](#).)
- + These researchers referred to the adaptation process as “fast, intelligent, painless”, “refreshing” and contributing to public outreach awards. (See testimonials [here](#).)



Who reads the Journal?

- + All science articles are completely open-access - freely available to anyone in the world.
- + In the last quarter of 2016 we had (on average) 700 unique visitors per day from 159 countries around the world (compared to 60 per day in the first 3 quarters of 2016 and 30 per day in 2015).
- + More than 500 people - mostly science teacher and scientists - subscribe for updates from the journal (compared to 60 in the first year).



How are we doing online?

- + Our [Facebook page](#) has 340 followers (more than doubled since 2015).
- + On [Twitter](#) we've posted nearly 1500 tweets and have 600 followers.
- + We reached 700 views on our [YouTube channel](#) (compared to 60 in the first year).

Who are we collaborating with?

- + Each scientific paper is accompanied by multiple free teacher's resources most of them a result of collaborations with other awesome educational organizations:
 - + Classroom data exercises from [DataNuggets](#).
 - + Lesson plans from [Edcite](#).
 - + Gamified quizzes featured on the [Kahoot!](#) Homepage.
- + We have compiled a list of [30+ other awesome science teaching resources](#) for our readers.
- + We received a [Google Ad Grants award](#) via [Google for Nonprofits](#). Google Ad Grants is an in-kind advertising program that awards free online advertising to nonprofits via Google AdWords.

Who's making it all happen?

- + In September 2016, the Journal's founder - Tanya Dimitrova - started working in it full-time.
- + We now have a [team](#) of nine science education professionals. Welcome to all our new science editors and curriculum writers!.
- + Our media outreach director - Christy Crabtree - takes care of social media and advertising.
- + We have an excellent design and web support [team](#).
- + Two of our board members left and we are now interviewing new ones.
- + We are lucky to have a multitude of knowledgeable and authoritative scientific and business advisors on our [team](#).



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