

Workshop 7: Creatures of the Deep**Reading 1 Project: Sea Census Under Way**
Sea Census Debate

Can a sea census tell you what you need to know?

Project: Work in a small group to discuss the pros and cons of conducting a sea census. Then write a short paragraph explaining your conclusion.

Procedure**1. Think about the issue:** *Is the sea census a good idea?*

Label one piece of notebook paper “Pros” and the other piece “Cons.” Brainstorm reasons for each side of the issue. Use questions to guide your thinking:

- How important is it to learn about ocean life?
- How much will the census cost?

Add some questions of your own.

2. Gather additional information.

Review “Sea Census Under Way” on page 168 of your *rBook Flex*. Are there facts or ideas that you want to include in your list of pros and cons? Add them, using your own words.

3. Take a stand.

Write a short paragraph explaining your decision. State your position at the beginning. Then give two or three reasons to support your argument. Include facts or examples.

4. Present your paragraph.

Read your paragraph aloud to the group. Compare your conclusions.

- Did everyone in your group take the same position?
- If so, did all of you use the same arguments?
- If not, did hearing other arguments change anyone’s mind?