ABOUT THE BOOK:
Little Critter and his class go on a field trip to the Sea Park. There are lots of interesting things to see there, including all kinds of sea animals, a petting tank, a pirate ship, sharks, and a gift shop. Little Critter enjoys every minute of it—especially when he gets wet! Everyone has a great day at Critterville Sea Park.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. Little Critter and his class go on a field trip to the Sea Park in this story. What happens at the beginning of the story? What happens in the middle of the story? How does the story end? Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.

2. Little Critter has fun at the Sea Park. What are some clues from the story that tell you Little Critter is having a good time? Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.1.3., RL.1.7., RL.2.1., RL.2.3., RL.2.7., RL.3.1., RL.3.7.

3. On page 15, Little Critter imagines what it would be like to meet an octopus. How does the illustration show you that Little Critter is using his imagination? Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.7., RL.1.7., RL.2.7., RL.3.7.

4. Little Critter thinks getting all wet was the best part of the day. If you had been to the Sea Park with Little Critter, which part of the day would have been your favorite? Why would you have liked that best? Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.

Common Core State Standards (Speaking and Listening) that discussions might also address: SL.K.1a-b., SL.K.2., SL.K.6., SL.1.1a-c., SL.1.2., SL.1.6., SL.2.1a-c., SL.2.2., SL.2.6., SL.3.1a-d., SL.3.6.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:
See the Sea Animals: There are lots of sea animals at the Sea Park. Make a list of all of the sea animals named in writing in the book. Then look at the illustrations and see if you can name any other sea animals you see. Add those to your list, too. Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.3., RL.1.7., RL.2.7., RL.3.7.; (Writing): W.K.2., W.K.8., W.1.2., W.1.8., W.2.2., W.2.8., W.3.2a-b., W.3.8.

Thank You, Critterville Sea Park: Little Critter and his class had a fun and interesting field trip at the Sea Park. Imagine that their teacher asks each of her students to send a thank-you note to the Sea Park workers who helped the class have such a good day. Imagine you are in Little Critter’s class. Draw a picture of something you liked at the Sea Park, and then write or dictate a short thank-you letter to the staff to go with your drawing. Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.3., W.1.3., W.2.3., W.3.3.

A Song for Bun Bun: Everybody gets scared sometimes, and Bun Bun gets scared on the pirate ship. Sometimes you can help yourself feel brave by singing a song. Make up a song Bun Bun could sing to herself to help her feel brave. Write or dictate the words to your new song, and then sing your song the next time you feel afraid. Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.2., W.1.2., W.2.2., W.3.2.

The Little Critter Collection: Mercer Mayer is both the author and illustrator of this book. He has written and illustrated many Little Critter books, including Going to the Firehouse and Snowball Soup. Read some other Little Critter books by Mercer Mayer, and then choose your favorite. Draw a picture from that book, and then write or dictate the reasons why you like that book the best. Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.9, RL.1.9, RL.3.9.; (Writing): W.K.1., W.1.1., W.2.1., W.3.1a-d.

Common Core State Standards (Writing) that writing activities might also address: W.K.5., W.K.6., W.1.5., W.1.6., W.2.5., W.2.6, W.3.4., W.3.5., W.3.6.