SYNOPSIS

In an abbreviated version of the feature film of the same title, the Jules Verne classic novel is dramatized. This forerunner of science fiction has fascinated many readers with its futuristic concepts and inventions, many of which are presently in use.

PURPOSE

General Objectives

1. To dramatize a classic Jules Verne novel.
2. To view inventions that were once considered as fantasy, but have since become fact.
3. To promote discussions about whether or not the means to an end can be justified.

Behavioral Objectives

After viewing the media, the student will:

1. List inventions in the media that are in general use today.
   a. Submarines.
   b. Electric lights.
   c. Atomic energy.
   d. Atomic fission.
2. Name characters that have major roles in the story.
   a. Professor Pierre Aronnax.
   c. Apprentice Conseil.
   d. Captain Nemo.
3. State for what the American ship was searching. (A sea monster.)
4. Tell what the ship actually found. (Submarine.)
5. State the goal that Captain Nemo had for the Nautilus. (To destroy the prison camp of Rorapandi.)

6. Tell reasons why Captain Nemo disliked the island prison.
   a. It was to have been abolished.
   b. He had been a prisoner there.
   c. The people made materials for ammunition.
   d. The ammunition would be used for killing.

7. Communicate Captain Nemo's reason for wanting to destroy the Nautilus. (To keep his secrets from warring countries.)

Discussion Objectives

1. Discuss Captain Nemo's motives for inventing and building the Nautilus.
2. Did Captain Nemo's goals justify the means he used?
3. Determine the probable meanings of these statements:
   a. "They found their answer." (They found what they were searching for: the "monster.")
   b. "It's as bright as day!" (The inside of a sub is supposed to be rather dim, but this one was as bright as if the light came from outside.)
   c. "Well, he got his monster." (Reference is made to the submarine which was the monster the professor was searching for.)
   d. "Nothing is abolished that turns a profit." (The government would not stop anything which had proven profitable one way or another.)
   e. "A power greater than mine makes that impossible." (Captain Nemo was dying and did not have the power over life; he was referring to God.)
   f. "In God's good time." (Nobody knew when it would happen, if at all. It was up to God.)

RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. Captioned media:
   a. Treasure Island #9900
   b. Long John Silver #8801
   c. Treasure of Matecumbe #8366

2. Read or view other classics by Jules Verne:
   a. Around the World in Eighty Days (1873)
   b. A Journey to the Center of the Earth (1864)
   c. From the Earth to the Moon (1865)
   d. Around the Moon (1870)
   e. Five Weeks in a Balloon (1869)

2. Bring to class science-fiction novels, and compare them to those written by Jules Verne.
3. Research and write a short biographical sketch of Jules Verne.

**SCRIPT**

(Underlining indicates important words or concepts which may need to be introduced before showing the media.)

(Narrator) There were rumors about a monster in 1868. To discover the truth, the United States asked Professor Pierre Aronnax, from Paris, an expert on sea monsters, to head an expedition. After weeks of searching, they found their answer.

(Farragut) Drummer, beat general quarters.

(Captain) Mr. Land, into the longboat with you.

(Conseil) Professor, hang on! Hang on!

(Narrator) Professor Aronnax and his apprentice clung to debris as their ship drifted away.

(Conseil) Hey, don't leave us. Help! Help! Help!

(Aronnax) They're disabled. They cannot help.

(Conseil) But they must. Help! Help!

(Aronnax) Can you see anything at all?

(Conseil) Wait till this fog lifts.

(Aronnax) I'm getting numb.

(Conseil) Look, Professor. There's something. It looks like the monster.

(Aronnax) I don't care. It floats. Who could have made a submarine boat?

(Conseil) You mean a submerging boat? It's incredible.

(Aronnax) What a miracle!

(Conseil) I don't like this at all.


(Conseil) Why don't we wait? Maybe somebody will come up.
(Aronnax) No, it will sink under us. It is able to, you know. Hello! Is anyone down there?

(Conseil) Why, it's as bright as day.

(Aronnax) There is great genius behind this.

(Conseil) Yes and great evil. This is an engine of destruction. Hello. Hello. Ahoy! Anybody there?

(Voice) Ahoy there! Is anybody aboard?

(Conseil) Hear that? Somebody's calling from outside. Come on!

(Aronnax) Wait! Look at this!

(Ned) Give me a hand with this line!

(Conseil) Why, Ned, it's you.

(Ned) Anybody here?

(Conseil) Yes, the Professor.

(Ned) Well, he got his monster!

(Conseil) The ship seems deserted, but I don't want to meet the owners.

(Ned) I'm not anxious, myself. I'd rather take the open sea.

(Conseil) My feelings exactly.

(Ned) Help me. We've gotta turn this over. Hold it! Never seen a barge like this. Looks like the galley. Cook's off, too!

(Conseil) Professor. What is it?

(Aronnax) Burial ceremony, under the sea.

(Conseil) Go away! Help! Help!

(Nemo) Search.

(Mate) Aye, Sir. Come on. Take him. Take that longboat.

(Sailor) Mind your step, mate.
(Nemo) You're from the warship?

(Aronnax) Yes, but we thought this was a monster, not a craft. This is Ned Land, Master Harpooner, my apprentice, Conseil, and I am Pierre Aronnax.

(Nemo) Professor Aronnax? I've heard of you and your writings. It's fortunate that you differ from your companions. You stay.

(Aronnax) (Thinking) The Nautilus and its motive power excited my curiosity. At my host's invitation I inspected the ship. He seemed determined to show me everything. We went to the compression room. Captain Nemo had discovered what mankind has always sought, veritable dynamic power of the universe. This gave him mastery of the sea. I can't believe it. How one could build such a craft. And in one stroke, harness power beyond the wildest dreams of science. Such secrets could change the world!

(Nemo) Or destroy it!

(Aronnax) (Thinking) At ten thousand leagues, I still had not solved the mystery. Nemo asked me to go ashore. I felt I'd have my answer.

(Nemo) The prison camp of Rorapandi.

(Aronnax) I thought it was abolished.

(Nemo) Nothing is abolished that turns a profit. Look through this.

(Aronnax) What's in those sacks?

(Nemo) Nitrates and phosphate for ammunition. They're loading a full cargo of death so the world will die a little more. I was once one of those pitiful wretches. Don't forget what you've seen today.

(Aronnax) I've seen enough.

(Nemo) It's burned in my memory. I didn't escape alone. There were others still with me.

(Aronnax) The Nautilus crew?

(Nemo) They are dedicated men with a plan for living and dying. We fled in their ships to a place called Vulcania.

(Mate) Vulcania? It sounds remote.

(Nemo) That's where we built the Nautilus.
(Mate) Sir?
(Nemo) What happened?
(Mate) Warships are ahead.
(Nemo) What flag?
(Mate) No flag.
(Nemo) Boarding parties have landed. This is a dark hour for history.
(Mate) Are we too late?
(Mate) Aye, sir.
(Nemo) Ahead full!
(Mate) Diving stations.
(Narrator) Nemo knew he could no longer wage his battle against war-mongering nations. His only concern now was to keep his secrets from his enemies, who he knew would use them to destroy the world.
(Nemo) All engines stop. Break out the skiff.
(Ned) What's going on?
(Conseil) Professor?
(Aronnax) The island is surrounded by warships.
(Conseil) By warships?
(Ned) Warships!
(Mate) Shove off.
(Nemo) Have everything ready.
(Mate) Aye, sir. Take cover!
(Ned) Look! They're coming!
(Nemo) Prepare for diving.
(Mate) Aye, sir. Hurt, sir?

(Nemo) Half ahead. Four degrees down. Ahead full. Lash the wheel.

(Mate) Aye, Lash the wheel.

(Nemo) We're diving for the last time.

(Mate) We understand. We're with you.

(Ned) Wait. I don't understand. What about us?

(Nemo) I'm dying. The Nautilus is dying with me. Professor?

(Aronnax) Yes?

(Nemo) Shortly, an explosion such as the world has never known will destroy my island and all its works. That's why I have brought the Nautilus here to its last resting place. Here we will die in peace. Go to your quarters.

(Ned) Why take us?

(Nemo) Lock them up.

(Mate) Aye, sir.

(Conseil) Get away from me!

(Aronnax) Captain, Captain. You cannot do this. There is more at stake. Yours is a dream come true. Please reconsider.

(Nemo) A power greater than mine makes that impossible. But there is hope for the future. When the world is ready for a new and better life, all this will come to pass. In God's good time.

(Ned) Come on. Let's get outta here. We've surfaced! Let's get the skiff. Where ya goin'?

(Aronnax) My journal!

(Ned) We've gotta hurry!

( Aronnax) My journal!

(Ned) Shove off! There's hope for the future. When the world is ready for a better life, all this will come to pass, in God's good time.