



Teacher Resource Guide

What's included in this resource:

- Introduction to rockpools classroom poster
- 5 worksheets on learning activities about rockpools
- Beneath the tide Youtube video link- Short fun fact videos from our aquarists
- Suggested guide of how to use the resources in classroom activities
- Craft activity- make your own rockpool!

Introduction to Rockpool Habitats

Everyone loves going to visit our coastal environments in particular the beach and enjoying exploring what is there. These resources and suggested learning activities get students to look at going to the beach in a different light and highlights how this is one very important ecosystem!

Suggested Learning Activities

During Group time, ask students if they have ever been to the beach before. Ask students to list things they might come across at the beach. With these words create a word wall to test students prior knowledge on the topic. Suggest items if students have forgotten any obvious ones.

Explain to students that there are many different habitats within a beach environment and that one you are going to look at most closely is a rockpool habitat and find out about certain creatures that like to call this habitat home! Play for students SEA LIFE Sydney Beneath the Tide Rockpools Youtube video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHCkMKfl15s>

Rockpool Classroom Poster

Use the poster to introduce rockpools to students in case not all students have ever heard of one before. Either read to class or choose students to read out facts about rockpools from the poster.

Do a brief internet search to find photos to help students familiarize themselves with what rockpools look like and where to find them.

Once finished ask students to think of or research another habitat they think might be extreme for animals to live in and provide a picture of what this habitat might look like. (For example: Tundra habitat in Antarctica where penguins live)

Ask students to think of an animal that they will find living in a rockpool. Get students to write one animal down on a piece of paper. Collect all students' responses and place in a bag or hat. Get students to create a tally and record the animals to see which animal is the most popular one students think live in a rockpool.



Sea Stars

Sea stars are one of the most common marine animals found living in a rockpool. It will be interesting to see if this was the most popular one thought in the student tally too!

Sea stars are such fascinating creatures that have learned to adapt extremely well to their ever-changing environment. Use the suggested activities and worksheet to get your students learning about them too!

Suggested Learning Activities

Have a group class discussion to see what students already know about Sea Stars. Ask students if they have seen one before- in a rockpool or in an aquarium! Ask students to describe what a Sea Star looks like.

Create a word wall with the words the students have used to describe the Sea Stars.

Show students a picture of a Sea Star to see if what they thought matched to what they can see.

Ask Students to write a sentence describing the Sea Star to a friend who is blind and can't see what they look like. Ask students to be very clear in their description.

Get students to watch the Sea Star Fun Facts YouTube video on SEA LIFE Sydney's channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ULctcL6QWw>

After watching the video students are to complete Beneath the Tide Sea Stars Worksheet!

Research

Ask students to research and find out 3 more features about Sea Stars that help them to survive living in a rockpool coastal environment.

Sea Urchins

Sea Urchins are another fantastic creature to learn about and are closely related to Sea Stars. They too belong to the Echinoderms family. This is because they are extremely spikey and have a bony skeleton.

Suggested Learning Activity

Hand out a piece of paper to students and get them to draw what they think a sea urchin looks like.

Get students to write describing words around their picture about what it would feel like to touch a sea urchin.

Play for students the SEA LIFE Sydney Beneath the tide Sea Urchin

Youtube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDqic9FU3Hw>



Research

Ask students to find out some more facts about sea urchins.

Get students to complete the Sea Urchin Beneath the Tide Worksheet.

Epaulette Sharks

Did you know sharks are fish? Epaulette Sharks are a fantastic species to investigate because they are bottomdwellers, which means they live and eat things from the ocean floor!

Suggested Learning Activities

Ask students to list as many different species of sharks as they can. See if any student mentions the Epaulette shark and ask if students can describe what this type of shark might look like.

Play for students the SEA LIFE Sydney Beneath the Tide Epaulette Shark Youtube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0pEcJNzOYM>

Ask students if the shark in the video matched what they thought the shark would look like?

Get students to recount some of the adaptations from the video Maddie the aquarist mentioned about the Epaulette shark.

One of the adaptations is that the shark can use their tiny fins to walk on land/rockpools to find new water when the tides are low. Bring in some swim flippers into the classroom and get students to have a turn at trying to walk/crawl across the classroom as flippers on their hands as if they were a Epaulette shark.

Students are to complete the Beneath the Tide Epaulette Shark Worksheet.

SEA LIFE

Beneath The Tide

Excursion Time

Bring students to your local SEA LIFE aquarium on a Field Trip to bring their classroom learning to life so they can experience rockpools first hand in a safe learning environment! Head to your local SEA LIFE website page to find out all about school excursion offerings!

Have students complete the Rockpool worksheet during their visit or when they return to the classroom as a post visit activity.

Craft Time

Suggested Learning Activity

Now that the students are familiar with rockpool and coastal habitats and have a understanding of what they look like and key features they can design and create their own aquarium!

Use the Beneath the Tide Make your own aquarium worksheet for templates and instructions!

Conservation

Rockpools and Beaches are an important environment for all to enjoy and should be protected for all future generations to experience, however, many human impacts such as changes in climate, erosion and pollution are placing these environments under threat!

Suggested Learning Activity

In pairs ask students to brainstorm ways they think they can protect these environments. They can use the tips in the Rockpool Classroom Poster to help them.

Students can create a poster that they can place around the school to educate other students about what they can do to protect rockpools when they are at the beach!

