

Lab Study: Marine Taxonomy

Activity Outline

Year Level 7-12

In this activity students work collaboratively to observe and classify a range of marine organisms and develop simple classification keys. Students also record physical characteristics of a variety of marine species through illustrated diagrams. Students learn to make links between organism structure and function and lifestyle characteristics.

Key Understandings

- Ecosystems consist of both living and non-living components.
- Living things can be differentiated and identified using various characteristics.

Key terms

Taxonomy, adaptation, physiology, function, classification, phylum, class, community, diversity, ecology, light, management, ecosystem, environment, interaction, matter, water.

Objectives and outcomes

This activity is designed to incorporate outcomes from the following Content Endorsed Course 4, 5, & 6 syllabuses.

MARINE STUDIES Stage 6 Syllabus (2000);
Core Module 3: Life in the Sea
Objectives 1.1, 1.3, 2.2, 3.1, 3.4, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4

BIOLOGY Stage 6 Syllabus (2002)
Objectives P2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Objectives H2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Marine Studies Content Endorsed Course Stage 4 -5 and 6 syllabuses.
Objectives covered stage 4; 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 4.7.2
Objectives covered stage 5; 5.1.1, 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.7.2
Objectives covered stage 6; 1.1, 1.3, 2.2, 3.1, 3.4, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4

Key competencies

- Working scientifically
- Collecting, analysing and organising information
- Communicating ideas and information
- Using technology
- Working with others and in teams