Lesson Summary

Overfishing is emptying the ocean, with 90% of fisheries already overfished. Illegal fishing is having a big impact. The IUU lessons explain about illegal fishing, regulations in place to protect the ocean, methods for detecting illegal fishing, the types of fishing activity and impacts on marine wildlife.

ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED & UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING - LESSON 1

Activities

These activities are designed to enhance and expand on the key learnings from the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Lessons 1 to 3. They can be used as part of the Lesson or assigned for research or projects.

English

LEARNING SKILLS – Creative thinking, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, explanation, teamwork and global citizenship.

Activity 1

Write a poem or short story about how a whale trapped in a fishing net would feel and what their reaction would be upon being cut free by divers.

Use ether an example of lost fishing nets or being trapped as by-catch in a purse seine fishing nets. Express the emotions and thoughts the whale would feel, describe their surroundings and their reaction to encountering humans.

Activity 2

Set up a debate with teams or individuals to debate the for and against of one of the following topics:

"Is it morally acceptable to fish a species that is endangered."

"The ocean is facing ecological collapse by 2050. Continuing to commercially fish the ocean at the current rate is unacceptable."

Geography

LEARNING SKILLS – Understanding, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking, analyse and explanation.

Activity 1

Research the location of three Sea Shepherd campaigns using the Sea Shepherd IUU Case Studies. Then:
➢ On a map identify the country, continent and ocean impacted by illegal fishing.
➢ Identify and write a short report on three unique geographical features about the country or coast, with reference to why fishing activities occur in this area.

Activity 2

Visit Global Fishing Watch and view the map.

https://globalfishingwatch.org/our-map/

On this map you will see thousands of white dots, which represent fishing vessels.

Notes:
➢ Along the bottom of the map you can select the period you wish to look at. For this exercise you will need to look at a single day and a one month period. Ensure you change the date range and allow the map to refresh.
➢ When zooming into an area give the map time to reload data.
➢ To see the path of a fishing vessel over a month click on the dot and wait for a pink line to appear which tracks the vessels movement.

Complete the following activities:
➢ Identify a region that has a high rate of fishing.
➢ Zoom in on the area and identify how many vessels are in the area fishing on that date.
➢ Select one vessel and track its movements for one month.
  • Identify the country the vessel is flagged in?
  • Determine if they were fishing within the EEZ of a country?
➢ Determine which region of the ocean had the highest rate of fishing in the last month?

History

LEARNING SKILLS – Understanding, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking and explanation.

Activity 1

Research how fishing vessels and equipment have changed in size over the years. What else has changed? Prepare a short report to discuss in class.

Activity 2

Identify the traditional methods of fishing that are used in West African coastal villages? Determine how these vary to commercial fishing vessels? Prepare a short report to discuss in class.

Math

LEARNING SKILLS – Problem solving, calculation, comparison and critical thinking.

Activity 1

With reference to the Table found here:
www.journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0004570

Perform the following calculations:

➢ Calculate the average rate of illegal fishing in each area?

➢ Determine which area has the highest rate of illegal fishing?

Science

LEARNING SKILLS – Understanding, questioning, research, analyse, communicate, critical thinking and explanation.

Activity 1

Investigate and report on what the impact of catching young (immature) fish would be on the long term survival of a species?

Activity 2

Analyse and explain why marine sanctuaries are important to protecting the future of marine wildlife species?

Social Science

LEARNING SKILLS – Understanding, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, explanation, advocate and global citizenship.

Activity 1

Research and prepare a report explaining what the impacts are on coastal communities, of illegal fishing within Economic Exclusion Zones?

Activity 2

Explain the ways overfishing can be stopped and how would you advocate for change? – (eg marine sanctuaries, law enforcement, monitoring).

Arts / Media

LEARNING SKILLS – Creative thinking, research, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, explanation, advocate and global citizenship.

Activity 1

Create:

➢ A collage, poster or infographic that explains the impacts of overfishing or by-catch.

➢ A video that will encourage people to make changes or support an issue:
  o Reduce fish consumption to help tackle overfishing / illegal fishing.
  o Supporting marine parks to protect species.
  o Stopping sharks being targeted for fins and raising shark awareness.

Activity 2

If you were helping Sea Shepherd to create awareness about the issue of by-catch, how would you create a media awareness program that tuna isn't dolphin or shark safe?

YOUR FEEDBACK

We value your feedback and would be pleased to hear your thoughts about this lesson and activities. Any comments, suggestions or requests for further information can be sent to education@seashepherdglobal.org