

Lesson Summary

Seals are facing a number of issues, including entanglement in abandoned fishing nets, plastic pollution, the fishing industry and being hunted for fur and skins.



Activities

These activities are designed to enhance and expand on the key learnings from the Seals lesson. They can be used as part of the Lesson or assigned as research or projects.

English

LEARNING SKILLS – Creative thinking, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, reasoning, advocate, reflect and explanation.

Activity 1

Imagine you are a seal pup just learning to swim and fish. Write a short story about how you spend your day.

Activity 2

Write a short story about a seal trying to find food who encounters fishing vessels taking all the fish. Write as if you are the seal, explain who you are, your life, how you feel about your food being caught by the fishermen.

Geography

LEARNING SKILLS – Research, investigate, analyse, interpretation, communicate, critical thinking and explanation.

Activity 1

Research 3 seal species, each must live on a different continent.

Identify their environment, where they live and hunt for fish.

Create a presentation detailing your findings.

History

LEARNING SKILLS – Research, interpretation, communicate, reasoning, explanation and critical thinking.

Activity 1

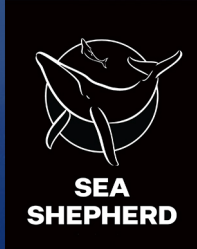
Research the history of seal hunts in the sub-antarctic or arctic region.

Identify who hunted them.

Which species were hunted?

What were the impacts on the species?

What products were they used for?



SEALS LESSON ACTIVITY SHEET

TEACHING RESOURCE: PRIMARY SCHOOL (Age 8 – 11)

Science

LEARNING SKILLS – Investigate, research, analyse, creative thinking, communicate, critical thinking and explanation.

Activity 1

Seals become entangled in commercial fishing nets or hooked on longlines. Create and describe measures that would prevent this from happening.

Activity 2

Design methods to either retrieve, track or recover commercial fishing nets that have been abandoned, lost or discarded in the ocean.

Social Science

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

Activity 1

Write an article advocating to respect the ocean and marine wildlife. Start with the seals and their conflict with humans for fish.

Useful fact: Did you know that globally, domestic cats consume more fish than seals?

Activity 2

Californian sea lions in the Columbia River near the Bonnaville Dam, on the Oregon – Washington Border are being killed by authorities for taking salmon.

Research this issue and the factors that have led to the confrontation. Write a paper on this issue, include reference to the following:

- Investigate what has led to the conflict between fisheries and sea lions and how it has changed.
- Identify why the sea lions are attracted to the area.
- Review news articles on the issue and how the issue is discussed. How are sea lions described,
- Do the news articles acknowledge why fish is currently endangered?
- What human measures have resulted in salmon and other fish becoming endangered in this area?
- How would you resolve the conflict between sea lions and fisheries?

Arts / Media

LEARNING SKILLS – Creative thinking, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, reasoning, advocate and explanation.

Activity 1

Draw a family of seals or seal pups playing in the water.

Activity 2

Create a poster or infographic encouraging people to protect seals – this can be about stopping seal hunts for fur, ending the conflict with fisheries or reducing the demand for fish used in pet food.

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