

Lesson Summary

Overfishing is emptying the ocean, with 90% of fisheries already overfished. Illegal fishing is having a big impact. This lesson explains the role commercial whaling has played and the current status of whaling.



Activities

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

English

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

Activity 1

Bowhead whales live in the Arctic region and can live for 200 years. Write a short story about life through the eyes of a Bowhead whale and the changes they have seen in the ocean over the last 150 years.

Activity 2

Set up a debate with teams or individuals to debate the following topic:

“Given our modern, connected world and the endangered status of most whale species, should whaling be allowed on the grounds of culture, tradition or for indigenous communities to provide a subsistence living.”

Geography

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

Activity 1

Research either the Arctic or Antarctica region, focusing on what would make these regions attractive to whales. Analyse how these areas provide the food source required by whales.

Activity 2

When travelling the ocean a sailor needs to be able to plot a course and find their position on a chart. This is done using the latitude and longitude position.

Latitude – is the angular distance of a place north or south of the earth's equator, usually expressed in degrees and minutes.

Longitude – is the angular distance of a place east or west of the Greenwich meridian, usually expressed in degrees and minutes.

On a map find the following coordinates and identify the country, the name of the body of water and which country conducts whaling in this area?

Latitude	Longitude
76°03'44.5"S	173°27'54.3"E
38°02'05.8"N	142°40'21.3"E
64°09'12.4"N	22°04'36.4"W
69°49'48.7"N	18°20'35.2"E
60°41'10.8"N	47°49'42.6"W



WHALING LESSON ACTIVITY SHEET

TEACHING RESOURCE: SECONDARY SCHOOL (Age 11 – 16)

History

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

Activity 1

Research the history of a whaling nations and how they hunted whales? Write an essay on one countries history, covering where they hunted whales, which species and the purpose of the whaling program.

Activity 2

Research and analyse how whales were hunted and killed in the 1800's, how has this changed over time? Discuss the following areas locations, how whaling took place, who hunted whales, the purpose, what equipment and methods used to kill whales.



WHALING LESSON ACTIVITY SHEET

TEACHING RESOURCE: SECONDARY SCHOOL (Age 11 – 16)

Science

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

Activity 1

Investigate current non lethal scientific research practices for learning about whales and other marine species.

- How do they collect samples and data.?
- What data do they collect?
- What do you think they could learn from this data?
- Design your own method for conducting research on whales. What would be the purpose of your research? How would you collect your data?



WHALING LESSON ACTIVITY SHEET

TEACHING RESOURCE: SECONDARY SCHOOL (Age 11 – 16)

Social Science

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

Activity 1

Write a short essay using one of these statements:

- Whales are important to our planet and should be protected from whale hunts of any kind.
- Most whale species are endangered and should not be hunted.

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