

Porci's Ocean Patrol Activity Sheet



Series 1: Episode 6 – Notes for Educators

Introduction

Welcome to Series 1: Episode 6 of Porci's Ocean Patrol (POP), a short, beautifully animated video that educates Reception to Year 4 students about the 'Great Southern Reef'.

Porci's Ocean Patrol is a Marine Discovery Centre project and can be accessed on YouTube and the Marine Discovery Centre website:

<https://www.marinediscoverycentre.com.au/porci-s-ocean-patrol>

These notes provide an outline of what young viewers can expect to see and discover when they view Episode 6. They also include key Episode 6 information to assist with student learning.

General introductory information relating to Porci's Ocean Patrol, and the presenters who appear in the videos, can be found on the Marine Discovery Centre website.

Let's get started!

Series 1: Episode 6 (Run time – 8 minutes and 32 seconds)

Episode 6 begins with a short, general introduction to the 'Great Southern Reef', located off the coast of South Australia, and to the creatures that exist from the surface to the bottom of the ocean.

This episode (as with all future episodes) has three major themes:

THEMES	EPISODE 6 TOPICS	RUN TIMES
1. Tips for keeping the ocean healthy that everyone can do.	Sand Dunes	0:35 to 2:52 minutes
2. Information about the sea creatures living in the ocean.	Port Jackson Shark	2:53 to 4:41 minutes
3. About the culture of the Kaurna people from the Adelaide Plains area.	Spears	4:42 to 7:18 minutes

Question 1 (35 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Claire, asks the first question:

"How do we look after our local sand dunes?"

Georgie explains that the South Australian coast used to be like a colossal sandbox that was crafted by the sea over thousands of years. But Georgie explains that as time went on, humans have built on top of these sand dunes, which disrupts the natural flow of the sand.

Georgie mentions this is why we must take care of the sand dunes that remain because they protect our beaches from disappearing.

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Porci helps us imagine how the beach is like a fortress and the plants around are the brave defenders! They use their roots to stand strong which keeps the sand safe from big waves and gusty winds.

Georgie explains how if we step through the sand dunes and their plants, it sends the defenders (plants) away. We want the plants to stay strong and protect the dunes just like superheros.

Georgie then tells us how dunes create their own special habitat at the beach, there are lizards catching insects, birds singing songs and maybe even a snake having a snooze. So, our job is to be like a respectful neighbour and not crash their party! Admire from a distance and let them enjoy their sandy mansion in peace.

Porci lets us know how we can help, by sticking to the path, follow any signs and if you're up for it, join groups who help put with dune revegetation projects.

Question 2 (2 minutes and 53 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Ted, asks the second question:

"I found this on the beach, can you tell me what it is? (Holding up a Port Jackson Shark egg)"

Porci explains how Ted has found a Port Jackson Shark egg! It's the first home of a baby Port Jackson Shark, a stripey Australian shark with a love for rocky reefs.

Porci tells us how the Port Jackson Shark mum will lay up to a dozen spiral shaped eggs and tucks them into cozy rock crevice's to keep them safe and hidden. The eggs hatch into adorable shark pups after about 1 year of growing. The pups will venture out into the shallows until they grow big enough for deep sea adventures.

Porci explains that Port Jackson Sharks are super cruisy, and they don't have typical shark jaws, they have small pointy front teeth and blunt back teeth. These are special for munching on, sea urchins, molluscs and crustaceans, keeping the underwater balance in check.

Porci shares a top tip if you want to see these sharks, head to Port Noarlunga Reef in Encounter Marine Park from Summer to Autumn, here they gather to mingle and mate

Porci lets us know that these guys need our help, from overfishing, climate change and habitat loss, this is casting shadows on their underwater paradise. Let's be ocean guardians by respecting their home and spreading the word to protect these striped wonders.

Question 3 (4 minutes and 42 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Indy, asks Karno the third question:

"How far can Kaurna people throw spears"

Porci states that aboriginal people are like the masters of spear throwing and they use a tool called the 'Midla' to help throw spears really far.

Karno describes the Midla like an extension of the arm and it makes spear throwing way easier and fun. It helps throw spears with more speed, great distance and with more power.

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Karno lets us know that the lightweight spears called the Kaya, the grass tree spear, the Kutpi, the reed spear and the Witu, the toy reed spear, can all be thrown with the Midla. But Karno tells us that they do not use it to throw a heavy spear like the Wirnta, the barb spear.

Karno explains how each spear is used for its own special job, the Kaya spear is perfect for hunting or fighting, it is made with a tea tree or eucalyptus timber shaft, sinew, and glued together with grass tree resin.

The Kutpi spear is like a multitool. It is used for fishing, hunting and even in battles. Its shaft is made from common reed, and the tip is crafted from tea tree or eucalyptus timber.

And lastly Karno explains that the Witu spear is like a toy spear for kids to use. It is made from common reed and has a ball of dry grass at the end. Kids use it for playing battle games and to practice their spear throwing by aiming at Mukarta, a round bark target.

POP Quiz Questions

The episode concludes with two multiple choice POP quiz questions for students (answers in red):

1. What is a shark baby called?
 - A. Cygnet
 - B. Fish
 - C. Pup**
 - D. Cub
2. What is the Midla used for?
 - A. Throwing spears far**
 - B. Making clothes
 - C. Surfing

Asking Questions

Student Ocean Patrollers are invited to ask Porci questions. Submit any student questions using the following link:

<https://www.marinediscoverycentre.com.au/porci-s-ocean-patrol/ask-porci>

Facts for Students

A fact sheet for students has also been developed, and provided in PDF format, as a support document for 'Porci's Ocean Patrol' – Series1, Episode 6.

<https://www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au/news/2021-everything-about-adelaide-seadragons>

Activity Sheets

A range of activity sheets have been developed to complement the video and student facts. These cover Foundation to Year 4 learning levels (with many providing two levels of difficulty) and focus on the English, HaSS and Science learning areas.