

Porci's Ocean Patrol Activity Sheet



Cloze Activity Solutions (level 1)

Porcupinefish

The scientific name for the porcupinefish is **DIODON** nichthemerus. They are also known as the **GLOBEFISH** or blow-up fish. Porcupinefish have fused teeth in their mouth that look a bit like a parrot's **BEAK**. This means they can **CRUNCH** on hard snacks like clams, **CRABS** and sea urchins. They are only found in Southern Australia, hanging out in seagrasses, shallow **REEFS** and under **JETTIES**.

Porcupinefish have a nifty trick when they feel in danger. They puff up like a spiky balloon by swallowing **WATER** or air.

They are night owls, which means when the moon is up, they are out **HUNTING** for snails in the sand. Don't even think about eating a porcupinefish! Their spines are super **SHARP** and poison called tetrodotxin is found inside.

Plastic Breakdown

Plastic is a bit like a super villain when it is left in the **ENVIRONMENT**. It never really **DISAPPEARS** or breaks down. It breaks up instead into tiny pieces over time. This makes it harmful to all types of **ANIMALS** from the smallest zooplankton to the largest **WHALE** who might confuse it for food.

PLASTIC straws can hold their shape for 200 years. Plastic bottles and **NAPPIES** last even longer, for 450 to 500 years!

We have the power to battle this plastic **PROBLEM**. Make some sustainable swaps, like choosing a **BAMBOO** toothbrush instead of a plastic one. Don't forget to bring your **REUSABLE** bottle and straw when you leave the house. We can all do our part to protect our **PLANET**.

Aboriginal Culture – Kids Sports on Country

One game that was really popular with **KIDS** was a game called Parntu. Parntu is a ball made from **POSSUM** skin and filled with charcoal, dry **GRASS** and emu feathers. The Kurna name for emu feathers is **KARDI** wapa. People on Country used all natural materials and made sure **NOTHING** went to waste. The game is all about kicking the **PARNTU** high into the air and everyone else trying to **CATCH** it.

You need two teams, the kickers and the **MARKERS**, and **FLAT**, grassy ground to play the game. It's a bit like Mark's Up, and if someone catches the ball, they become the new **KICKER**.