



Key Stage 2 Lesson 1 – Amazing Oysters

Lesson Plan

Introduction

Oysters are often overlooked as people assume that they are rocks or part of the seabed. Oysters may not look like much from the outside but oysters are very special animals.

In this lesson, we explore what an oyster is and how they feed, an oyster's lifecycle, the ecosystem benefits provided by an oyster reef, the impact that humans have on oyster reefs and the amazing, pioneering work that Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's expert marine team is carrying out to restore oyster reefs in the Humber estuary.

Teaching and Learning

Task 1: Amazing oysters PowerPoint presentation

- Start the lesson by presenting the PowerPoint to learn all about oysters, how humans have historically affected oyster reefs and about the work that Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is doing to bring oyster reefs back to the Humber estuary.

Task 2: Nearpod quiz

- Use the Nearpod link on the 'Marine Learning Pack' webpage and complete the quiz to test students' understanding of the PowerPoint presentation. Use the teacher's link to add the quiz to your resources and to be able to edit the quiz (you will need to create a free Nearpod account to do this) or use the student-paced link to allow students to complete the quiz in their own time (no Nearpod account needed).

Task 3: Practical activity – make your own oyster and filter feeding demonstration

- This practical activity has two parts. Students will start by creating their own oysters from coffee filters, and then use coffee filters to demonstrate how oysters filter seawater. For the filter feeding demonstration, students can either work in groups or the teacher can perform the demonstration in front of the class.

Learning Outcomes

- 1) Describe what an oyster is
- 2) Explain how an oyster reproduces
- 3) Discuss why oysters and oyster reefs are important to an ecosystem

Key Vocabulary

Classification, soft-bodied invertebrate, mollusc, filter feeding, phytoplankton, lifecycle, reproduction, habitat, organism.

Links to the National Curriculum

Science

- **Living things and their habitats:**
 - Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways
 - Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment
 - Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things
 - Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals
 - Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals
 - Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
 - Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.
- **Evolution and inheritance:**
 - Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

Geography

- **Human and physical geography:**
 - Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features, including beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather.

