

# THE BLUE FISH TICK



**Teacher resources - Lesson plan**



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## Australian Curriculum Objectives

### Years 5 & 6 (Stage 3) - HASS

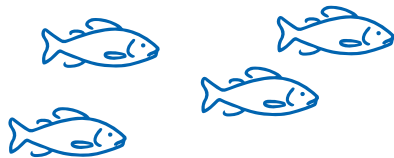
- [AC9HS5K05](#)  
The management of Australian environments, including managing severe weather events such as bushfires, floods, droughts or cyclones, and their consequences
- [AC9HS5K08](#)  
Types of resources (natural, human, capital) and the ways societies use them to satisfy the needs and wants of present and future generations
- [AC9HS6K08](#)  
Influences on consumer choices and methods that can be used to help make informed personal consumer and financial choices
- [AC9HS5S02](#) / [AC9HS6S02](#)  
Locate, collect and organise information and data from primary and secondary sources in a range of formats
- [AC9HS5S03](#) / [AC9HS6S03](#)  
Evaluate information and data in a range of formats to identify and describe patterns and trends, or to infer relationships
- [AC9HS5S05](#) / [AC9HS6S05](#)  
Develop evidence-based conclusions
- [AC9HS5S06](#) / [AC9HS6S06](#)  
Propose actions or responses to issues or challenges and use criteria to assess the possible effects
- [AC9HS5S07](#) / [AC9HS6S07](#)  
Present descriptions and explanations, drawing ideas, findings and viewpoints from sources, and using relevant terms and conventions



The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is on a mission to end overfishing. This 40-60 minute lesson for ages 10+ will introduce learners to the MSC Standard for sustainable fishing.

### Key terms

- Marine Stewardship
- Standard
- Principle
- Overfishing
- Sustainable fishing
- Fish stocks
- Environmental management
- Fisheries management



### Key questions

- What is Marine Stewardship?
- What is sustainable fishing?
- What might a sustainable fishing standard look like?
- What are the three principles of the MSC Fisheries Standard?
- How does the Lakes and Coorong Pigi fishery meet the MSC Fisheries Standard?

### You will need

- Access to the video [What is the MSC and why is certified sustainable seafood important?](#)
- Access to the clip [Sustainable Fishing](#)
- Access to the Shorthand story [Shuffling for Sustainability](#)
- Printed or shared digital copies of the Supermarket Survey Sheet (pages 7 to 10)
- Access to the Kahoot quiz [The Blue Fish Tick](#)

### Class Activities

- Learners will understand the concepts of Overfishing and Sustainable Fishing
- Learners will be introduced to the Marine Stewardship Council program to end overfishing
- Learners will consider what a Fisheries Standard might look like
- Learners compare their ideas with the MSC Fisheries Standard Guide
- Learners will watch a video from the Lakes and Coorong Pigi Fishery in South Australia



# LESSON PLAN: THE BLUE FISH TICK

## Refresher (10 mins)

This lesson is designed to follow on from the lesson 'Oceans at Risk' which focuses on the topic of **Overfishing**. If learners have not completed the Oceans at Risk lesson, begin by showing students the film clip [Overfishing](#) (2:55) from 'My Dad the Fisherman' and discuss as a class

- *What is overfishing?*
- *What impact does overfishing have?*

Then skip straight to Main activity

## Starter (5 mins)

Start by asking learners what they recall from the previous lesson on Overfishing?

Overfishing can be defined as:

*When a certain species of fish (usually one which people like to eat most) are fished too much they are unable to reproduce their numbers and begin to decline.*

### Overfishing

- Results in the decline of fish stocks (the number of fish available to catch)
- Affects entire marine communities
- Can cause fishers to lose their livelihoods (jobs)

## Main activity (25-40 mins)

In this lesson we will learn about a solution to overfishing, which is the Marine Stewardship Council standard for sustainable fishing.

Firstly show students the clip [Sustainable Fishing](#) (2:54) from the short film [My Dad the Fisherman](#). If you have the time, you could show the complete 15-minute film.

Discuss as a class

- *What does Sustainable fishing mean?*
- *What are some of the ways that fishers can practice sustainable fishing?*
- *What is a Maximum Sustainable Yield?*

(Refer to the Sustainable Fishing Fact box on next page for guidance.)

Next, asking learners to break down the name 'Marine Stewardship Council' (The MSC)

*What does each word mean?*

- **Marine** - Relating to the ocean
- **Stewardship** - To take care for, look after
- **Council** - An authority, group of people

The Marine Stewardship Council is an international non-profit organisation on a mission to end overfishing. The MSC sets a **standard** for **sustainable fishing** that fisheries work to meet all around the world.





Show learners the following short video clip:

[What is the MSC and why is certified sustainable seafood important?](#) (1:30)

Work as a class to create a list of things that the MSC might consider in its Sustainable Fisheries Standard. Then learners do their own research to find out what are the Three Principles of the MSC Fisheries Standard (for answers, see page 6).

Compare the answers they find with the ideas you came up with as a class, and discuss

- *What is included, and what is missing from the MSC Standard?*
- *Why might this be the case?*

Working in pairs, ask students to find an Australian supermarket of their choice which has an online store. Using the Supermarket Survey Sheet (pages 7 to 10) ask students to assess the range of seafood products available in that supermarket with the MSC blue fish tick label.

If time allows, ask students to create a graph of any seafood products found with the MSC blue fish tick label compared with other seafood products

### Discussion (5-10 mins)

To close the lesson, discuss as a class

- *What might be some advantages or disadvantages of choosing an MSC-certified seafood product? Why?*
- *What can we all do to prevent overfishing and protect our oceans?*

### Review

Host a 5-minute Kahoot challenge on this topic at [The Blue Fish Tick](#)





## Sustainable Fishing Fact Box

### Defining Sustainable Fishing

Sustainable fishing means fishing in a responsible way, making sure fish populations do not drop below levels where they cannot reproduce and grow faster than they are caught. It is also important to make sure fishing doesn't damage marine life and their ecosystem.

### Fishers practice sustainable fishing by

- Learning as much as they can about the species of fish and shellfish they catch, and the ecosystem they live in
- Working with scientists to understand how the fish and shellfish populations grow and shrink over time (calculating the Maximum Sustainable Yield)
- Fishing for a certain number or *quota* every year
- Choosing the right time of day or night to avoid bycatch
- Using nets and devices that ensure smaller fish and sea creatures can escape
- Using bright coloured flags on their boats to scare sea birds away

### What is Maximum Sustainable Yield?

Maximum Sustainable Yield is a scientific calculation that shows fishers how much they can catch without overfishing

## Extension Activities

1. Ask students to watch the following videos which explain the three principles of the MSC Fisheries Standard. Then use a tool such as [Canva](#) or [Pictochart](#) to create a simple infographic, explaining the three principles of the MSC standard. Draw on the example on page 6 for inspiration.

### Beginner

[The Three Principles of the MSC Standard](#) (0:52)

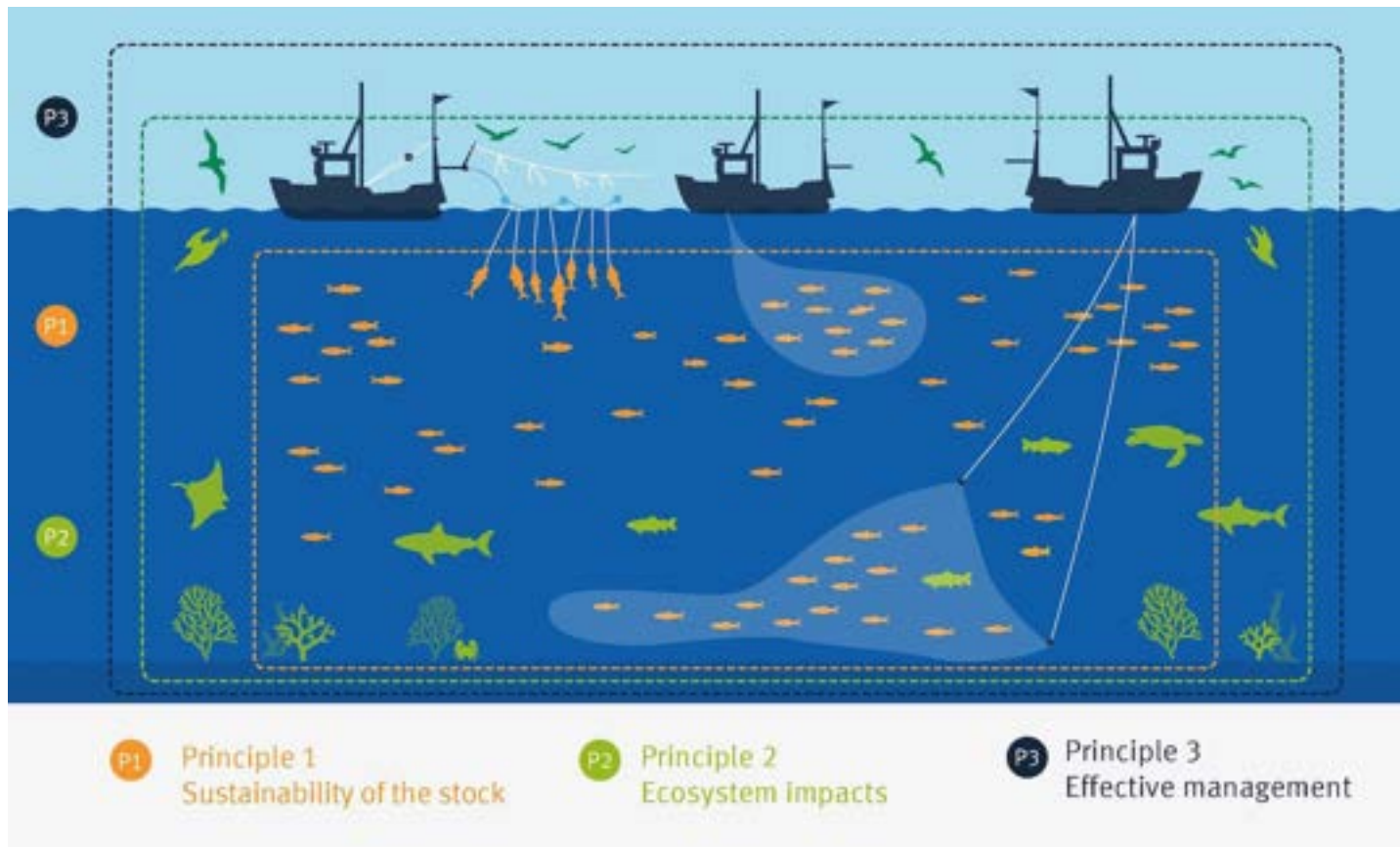
### Advanced

- [What does the MSC label mean? - Principle 1](#) (2:39)
- [What does the MSC label mean? - Principle 2](#) (2:45)
- [What does the MSC label mean? - Principle 3](#) (2:11)





# THE MSC FISHERIES STANDARD



## Three Principles of the MSC Standard

### 1. Sustainable Fish Stocks

Fishing must be at a level that it can carry on indefinitely and the fish population will stay healthy

### 2. Minimising Environmental Impact

Fishing must be done carefully so that other species and habitats are looked after

### 3. Effective Fisheries Management

The fishery must be well managed and able to adapt to changing environmental conditions





## Focusing Question:

**What does the Marine Stewardship Council blue fish tick mean?**

## You will need

- Copies of supermarket survey
- Clipboard
- Pen
- Explanation card
- Or, access to supermarket online store websites

## Instructions

### Activity 1: Survey (30-60 minutes)

1. With a buddy or with family as a homework activity, take a clipboard and the supermarket survey sheet (following page) and visit a local supermarket! Use the card to help explain your task if anyone asks (Note: If a visit to the supermarket isn't feasible for your class then have them do a pantry and freezer survey at home!)
2. Complete the top part of the survey sheet with name(s), the date and time and the name of the supermarket (see the example below).
3. Look around for fish and fish products (including tinned fish, frozen fish products and fresh fish). There is a column for flavour varieties to avoid spending hours recording many different flavour varieties of the same product!
4. Record findings on the table (see the example below).

### Activity 2: Class Work (30-60 minutes)

5. Bring the survey sheet to school for analysis, comparison and graphing.
6. Create a simple graph to compare the number of Marine Stewardship Council Blue Label products that were found with the number of products that came from non-certified sources.





# SUPERMARKET SURVEY SHEET

<b>Your name(s):</b>  Michael Parker & Susan Abrahams	<b>Date &amp; time:</b>  Thursday 4th June 2020, 6pm	<b>Name of Supermarket:</b>  Woolworths, Illawarra Rd, Marrickville
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## EXAMPLE:

Company or brand	Product name & description eg. flaked tuna	Fish species	Product category 1. Tin 2. Frozen 3. Fresh 4. Other	# of different flavour varieties	MSC Blue Fish Tick label ✓
John West	Mackerel Fillets	Scottish mackerel (Atlantic mackerel)	1	2	✓
Goolwa Pipi Co.	Cooked pipis	Australian pipi	4	1	✓

### Explanation Card

Hello! We are from \_\_\_\_\_ School and are currently studying sustainable fisheries. We have been learning about overfishing and work of the MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) who certify fisheries as sustainable. We are doing a supermarket survey to look at how many fish products have the MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) Blue Label. This label shows that the fish product comes from a sustainable fishery.





# SUPERMARKET SURVEY SHEET



<b>Your name(s):</b>	<b>Date &amp; time:</b>	<b>Name of Supermarket:</b>
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<b>Company or brand</b>	<b>Product name &amp; description eg. flaked tuna</b>	<b>Fish species</b>	<b>Product category</b> 1. Tin 2. Frozen 3. Fresh 4. Other	<b># of different flavour varieties</b>	<b>MSC Blue Fish Tick label</b> ✓





<b>Company or brand</b>	<b>Product name &amp; description eg. flaked tuna</b>	<b>Fish species</b>	<b>Product category 1. Tin 2. Frozen 3. Fresh 4. Other</b>	<b># of different flavour varieties</b>	<b>MSC Blue Fish Tick label ✓</b>

