

CHRISTMAS PRAWNS IN AUSTRALIA



Classroom Lessons for a *Sustainable* Christmas
Teacher resources - Primary

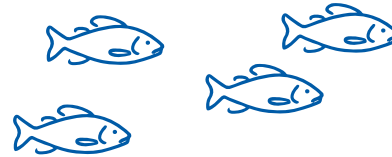




Australian Curriculum Objectives



Cross-Curriculum Priority - Sustainability



Years 5 & 6 (Stage 3) - HASS

- [ACHASSK119](#)
The difference between needs and wants and why choices need to be made about how limited resources are used
- [ACHASSK120](#)
Types of resources (natural, human, capital) and the ways societies use them to satisfy the needs and wants of present and future generations
- [ACHASSK121](#)
Influences on consumer choices and methods that can be used to help make informed personal consumer and financial choices
- [ACHASSK149](#)
How the concept of opportunity cost involves choices about the alternative use of resources and the need to consider trade-offs
- [ACHASSK150](#)
The effect that consumer and financial decisions can have on the individual, the broader community and the environment
- [ACHASSI096 / ACHASSI124](#)
Organise and represent data in a range of formats including tables, graphs and large- and small-scale maps, using discipline-appropriate conventions
- [ACHASSI101/ACHASSI129](#)
Evaluate evidence to draw conclusions
- [ACHASSI103 / ACHASSI131](#)
Use criteria to make decisions and judgements and consider advantages and disadvantages of preferring one decision over others
- [ACHASSI104/ACHASSI132](#)

Years 5 & 6 (Stage 3) - Science

- [ACSSU043](#)
Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment
- [ACSSU094](#)
The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment
- [ACSIS093 / ACSIS110](#)
Communicate ideas, explanations and processes using scientific representations in a variety of ways, including multi-modal texts
- [ACSIS218 / ACSIS221](#)
Compare data with predictions and use as evidence in developing explanations





Years 5 & 6 (Stage 3) - Mathematics

- [ACMNA101](#)
Solve problems involving division by a one digit number, including those that result in a remainder
- [ACMNA291](#)
Use efficient mental and written strategies and apply appropriate digital technologies to solve problems
- [ACMNA106](#)
Create simple financial plans
- [ACMSP118](#)
Pose questions and collect categorical or numerical data by observation or survey
- [ACMSP120](#)
Describe and interpret different data sets in context

The Marine Stewardship Council is on a mission to End Overfishing. In this 40-60 minute lesson for ages 10+ learners will discuss the Australian Christmas tradition of eating prawns, and the importance of sourcing sustainable seafood.

Key terms

- Prawn (Shrimp)
- Christmas
- Tradition
- Festive
- Overfishing
- Sustainable fishing

You will need

- Access to the video [Amazing Animals. The Shrimp](#)
- Colouring-in pencils or drawing materials (Science)
- Access to the video [news clip Channel 9](#) and [In the Blood](#) (HASS & English)
- Access to internet - supermarket online store and recipe pages (Maths)
- Calculator (Maths)

Key questions

- How do we celebrate Christmas in Australia?
- What is a Prawn?
- Where do the prawns we eat at Christmas time come from?
- What is overfishing?
- Is sustainable seafood more expensive?
- How can we ensure that we have sustainably caught prawns in the future?

Class Activities

- Learners discuss their favourite Australian Christmas traditions
- Learners discover what a prawn (or shrimp) is
- Learners label the anatomy of an Australian banana prawn
- Learners consider where our seafood comes from and the importance of consuming sustainably
- Learners calculate the cost of a sustainable Christmas seafood lunch





CHRISTMAS PRAWNS IN AUSTRALIA



Starter (5-10 mins)

Begin class by asking students

- How do we celebrate Christmas in Australia?
- How is Christmas in Australia different to other countries in the world?
- What Christmas traditions do they have in their families?
- What types of foods do they eat at Christmas time?

Introduce students to the tradition of eating prawns at Christmas time. In Australia, we consume 40% of our yearly intake of prawns at Christmas time alone. Some popular Christmas prawn dishes include:

- Prawns on the barbecue, grilled prawns, prawn skewers
- Butterflied prawns
- Prawns with pasta
- Prawn salad
- Prawn cocktail
- Seafood platter
- Seafood dip

But exactly what is a prawn? And where do our prawns come from?

In this lesson we will discover the journey this favourite festive food takes from the ocean to our plates.

Main Activity (30-45 mins)

Show students this video from National Geographic Kids [‘Amazing Animals. The Shrimp’](#) (1:16). Then complete one or more of the exercises below.

Shrimp or Prawn?

In North America and other parts of the world, the terms ‘shrimp’ and ‘prawn’ are used to differentiate between species of this crustacean. Shrimp have claws on two sets of legs, whilst prawns have claws on three sets. Shrimp are smaller, and usually refer to saltwater species, whilst prawns are larger and usually refer to freshwater species. In Australia, we use the word prawn interchangeably for all species.

Science & Art

Anatomy of a prawn. Use the exercise sheet on page 6 to label and colour-in the different parts of the prawn using scientific terms. Ask students to consider

- Where is the prawn’s skeleton?
- How might the different features of a prawn help them to live in underwater environments?
- Which parts of the prawn we eat, and which we do not?
- What might we be able to do with the parts of the prawn we do **not** eat? (eg. make a seafood stock)





If you have the time, you could even follow this [instructional video](#) (6:54) to draw a prawn of your own. Don't forget to add a santa hat or other Christmas features!

HASS & English

What would Christmas be like without prawns? Show students this [news clip from Channel 9](#) (1.55) highlighting the shopping habits that could be putting our Christmas prawns at risk.

Discuss as a class,

- What is the problem being discussed in this news clip?
- Why might our Christmas prawn supplies be at risk in the future?
- What does 'sustainable fishing' mean?

Sustainable Fishing

Sustainable fishing means catching fish in a responsible way to make sure that fish populations don't drop below levels where they cannot reproduce and grow faster than they are caught. A healthy prawn stock means that fishers only catch a certain number of prawns each year, ensuring that there will be enough prawns left in the ocean for future generations.

To see about what sustainable prawn fishing looks like in practice show students the video '[In the Blood](#)' (5:33) about the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery in South Australia.

Students write a short story or poem describing what Christmas prawns might look like in 20 years time.

Maths & Economics

Students work in pairs to plan a Christmas lunch for TEN people using [one of these recipes](#) or a recipe of their own choosing. Ask students to calculate the total cost of all the ingredients they need to make enough food for ten people.



Video Credit: Australian Council of Prawn Fisheries, FRDC and [Millstream Productions](#)

Next, ask students to find an Australian supermarket of their choice which has an online store. Students research the different prawn products available and calculate

- a) How much would their recipe cost if they were to use the cheapest prawn product available?
- b) How much would their recipe cost if they were to use an MSC-certified prawn product?
- c) How much would their recipe cost **per person** to use an MSC-certified prawn product?

Discuss as a class

- Is it more expensive to buy sustainable prawns?
- What other types of costs might we have to consider when calculating which prawns to buy? (eg. social,



Discussion (5-10 mins)

Discuss as a class,

What can we all do to make sure that we have prawns this Christmas and **every** Christmas into the future?

MSC Christmas Prawn Treasure Hunt 2020

Be in the running to win a box of Skull Island Tiger prawns by playing the Christmas Prawns Treasure Hunt!

[Click here to join the Treasure Hunt](#)

Kahoot Game Pin: 07518289



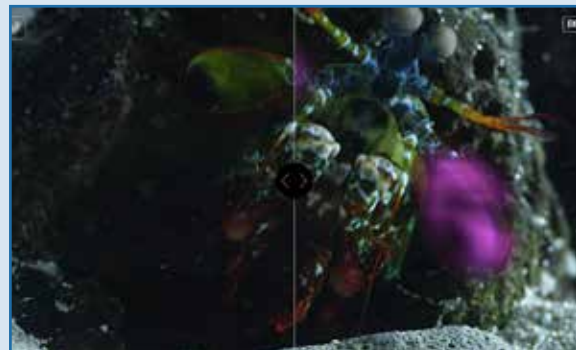
Extension Activities

1. The Mantis Shrimp

A special species of shrimp found in Queensland's Great Barrier Reef is the Mantis Shrimp. Mantis Shrimp see the ocean environment in a very different way to us. They can detect light that no other living creature we know of can.

Show students this video about the mating rituals of [Mantis Shrimp](#) (1:36)

Students can also explore this amazing example of [Mantis Vision](#) from David Attenborough's Reef.

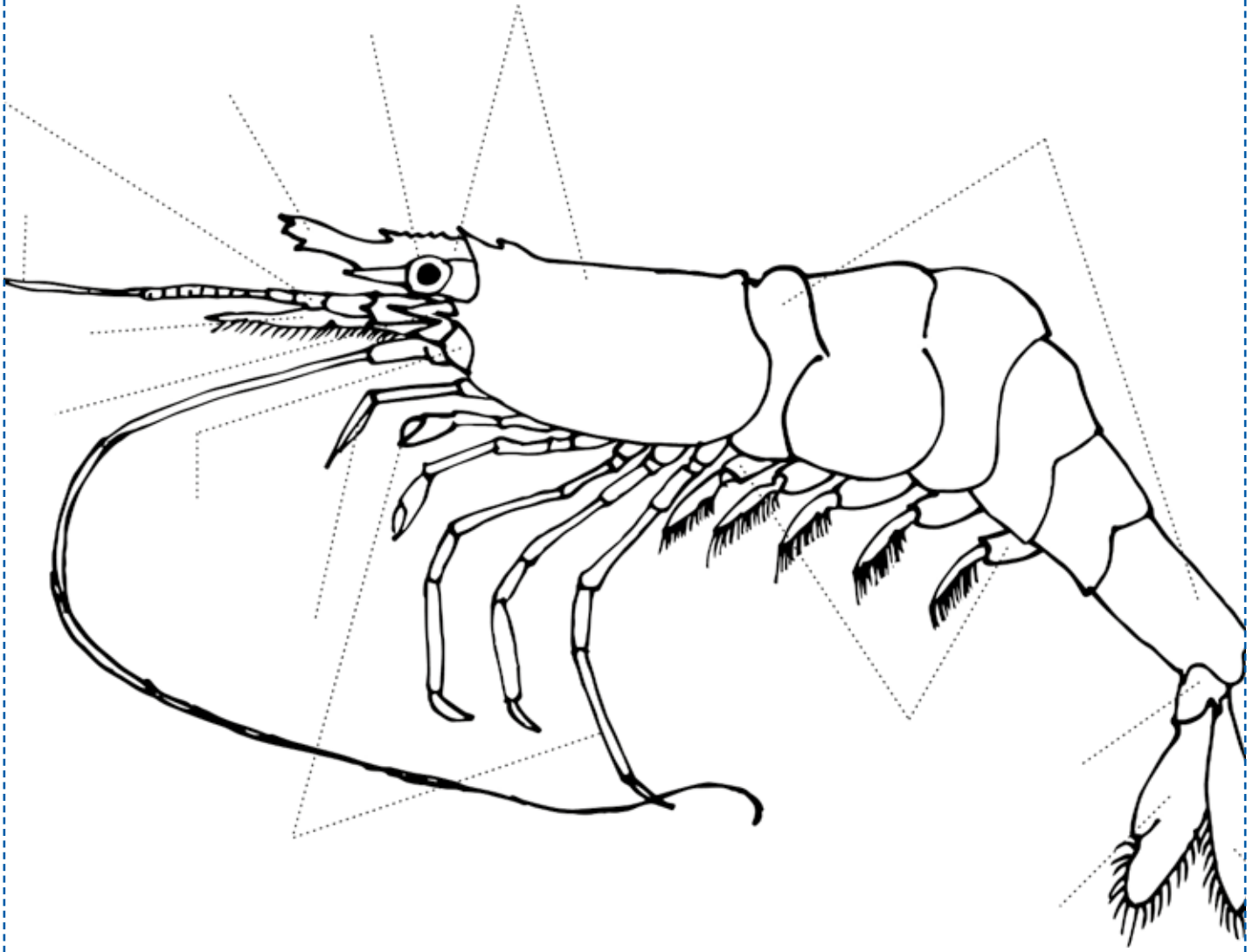


2. Students explore these resources from the Australian Wild Prawns

- A [map](#) of Australia's Wild Prawn Fisheries
- A guide to the [Prawn Species](#) most commonly fished in Australia
- An [interactive 3D](#) or AR experience on board a prawn trawling vessel



Colour in Christmas Prawn



Body Parts

Antenna; Abdominal Segments; Carapace; Eye; Rostrum; Swimmerets; Walking legs





Prawn Body Parts - Answers

