EXTRA RESOURCES AND GAMES:
www.fishandkids.org

MARINE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

LEARN ABOUT SAVING OUR OCEANS

Fish and kids

JOIN MURDOCK THE FISHERMAN'S CAT TO LEARN ABOUT SUSTAINABLE FISHING AND FIND WAYS TO HELP

HI!

WELCOME TO FISH & KIDS! *One of my favourite meals is simply grilled fresh fish – there is nothing better and I have a great respect for the fishers who bring this dish to my table. But I know that they have another important job to do – as well as catching fish, they have a responsibility to look after the wonders of the sea. I love this pack because it encourages us to try to play a role too – in the food we buy and messages we send back to the fishers.*

Your class can learn a lot about fish and fishing from this pack and the Fish & Kids website **(www.fishandkids.org)**. *This is the first time a National Curriculum pack has attempted to teach children about the environmental impacts of fishing. The activities also give children a real enthusiasm for eating fish, which is a great combination given the health benefits we're hearing so much about these days! Teach the pack to encourage your class to care about ocean dwellers and the future of fish for everyone.*

You could also ask for sustainable seafood to be served in your school!

Yours,

AINSLEY HARRIOTT

PS. Please don't forget to fill in the online feedback form to tell the MSC what you liked and what you'd change to help them tell more people about sustainable fish.

This Fish & Kids learning pack has been produced by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) to increase children's knowledge and understanding of the sea, its creatures, the fishers that depend on it and the threats they all face. Children will also learn about the fishing industry, where seafood comes from, food labelling and consumer choice. Inside, you'll find discussion cards, detailed lesson plans and activities that meet curriculum targets for a range of subjects for Key Stages 1 and 2.

This pack is part of the MSC's overall Fish & Kids project, which is designed to involve schools, children and families in the process of saving the seas through education and school meal choices. It is now possible for many school caterers to choose sustainable fish as a menu option. But whatever kind of fish your school kitchen is putting on the plate, this pack will engage your class in learning about where seafood comes from and how everyone's actions can make a difference.

Did you know that fish are running out?

Fishing is an important global industry and the livelihoods of millions of people around the world depend upon this vital food resource. But there can be some negative impacts associated with fishing – especially how fishing affects the marine environment and the problem of overfishing.

- Around 25% of the world's fish stocks are overexploited or depleted.
- 200 million jobs depend on the fishing industry worldwide.
- A staggering 8% of everything caught in the oceans is wasted by being thrown back into the water, dead or dying.
- Every year, this bycatch is over 7.3 million tonnes, which is equivalent to more than *six times* the total amount of fish eaten in the UK.

The MSC is an independent charity set up to find a solution to the problem of overfishing. We have set an environmental standard to measure and reward well-managed fisheries and we work with everyone who has an interest in the future of seafood to raise awareness of this solution. Seafood products that meet this standard can display the MSC's bold, blue eco-label.

If you want to know more please do get in touch via the website at ***www.fishandkids.org***. You'll find it has further teaching resources, up-to-date information and a children's area with games, quizzes and fascinating facts.

Supporting website: www.fishandkids.org

Using website for classwork

Discussion cards: in the back pocket

introduction

Most children love fish fingers, but do they know where fish comes from and how it finds its way onto our plates? This pack will help children discover the answers to these questions and explore a wide range of new ideas about the marine ecosystem, fishing and sustainability.

What is sustainable fishing?

Many fishers are aware of the threats of overfishing to the seas and their businesses. Some are moving towards sustainable management of fish resources. This recognises that there is also a responsibility to look after the marine environment, and ensure that fishing practices are in balance with the local ecology. The MSC supports these fishers and is working to encourage more of them to switch to sustainable practices.

Look for the MSC eco-label

The MSC was set up to offer people a positive way to get involved in the effort to save our oceans. It allows responsible fishers to be recognised for their efforts, and by choosing sustainable fish from shops, school canteens and restaurants, we can all show our support for sustainable fishing practices. In this way, every person can reward those fishers who are thinking of the future.

The MSC's simple blue eco-label makes it easy for consumers to identify sustainable fish products. It contains a fish tick symbol showing that the fish has come from responsible fisheries. By choosing MSC-labelled fish, customers send a message back to the fishers showing their support for sustainable fishing.

Who can use the MSC eco-label?

It usually takes at least a year for each group of fishermen to undergo the MSC assessment because the science-based process is detailed and rigorous. One of the MSC's unique features is that interested parties can comment on the assessment as it progresses, making sure that it is fair and reflects all the issues at stake. If they pass, the fishery is certified as meeting the MSC's environmental standard. Each company that wants to use the MSC label has to prove to an independent auditor that they will only use it on fish from certified fisheries. In this way we can trust the MSC eco-label on seafood products. You can find out more about this at ***www.msc.org***.

Support sustainable fishing at school

School caterers have a special role to play by serving sustainable seafood to children, and this is now possible for many schools. Children, teachers and parents can ask for sustainable seafood to be served at school, joining thousands of people around the world who are supporting sustainable fishing through their shopping and dining decisions.

At the time of printing, there were over 1,000 schools serving MSC fish in the cafeteria – you can help make your school part of this too. Visit ***www.fishandkids.org/staffroom*** (click on 'in your school') for a downloadable letter you can send to your school meals provider asking for sustainable fish. Children and schools can help to save the oceans – get involved!

Enjoying sustainable fish for lunch!

How the pack works

The Fish & Kids classroom pack is structured around four sections:

- ***Food chain***
- ***Fishing***
- ***The impact of fishing***
- ***Eco-labels***

Each section consists of:

- *Detailed teacher's notes*
- *A discussion card to introduce the section*
- *Two KS1 lesson plans and supporting activity sheets*
- *Two KS2 lesson plans and supporting activity sheets*
- *Answers, further resources and a glossary (back pages).*

The pack can be used as a starting point for a project or linked into an existing topic on food, conservation or environmental issues. It can also be used within a whole-school approach to food and to sustainable development, and will support a school food policy by providing curriculum-linked material that teaches children where food comes from.

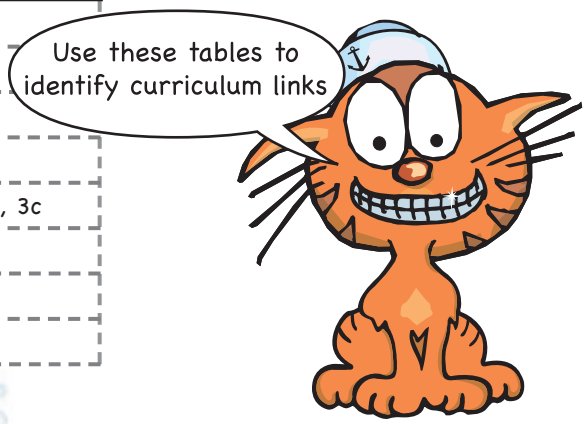
There are five discussion cards tucked into the back of the pack with full colour photographs on the front and a story, discussion ideas, debate question and a class activity on the back. You can tailor these to the needs of your class. There is one card to introduce or conclude each of the sections. An extra card has been produced as a warm up to the pack, which is all about eating fish around the world. It's called 'Love fish?' and you can try it as an introduction to any of the sections.

The website at ***www.fishandkids.org*** has supplementary games and activities so children can explore sustainable fishing and marine issues for themselves in a fun and friendly environment. Children can find fascinating facts about the sea and play fun games to support class work.

Each lesson plan is based on a photocopiable activity sheet, with activities suitable for three levels of learning to cater for differing abilities; the lesson plans suggest support, extension and plenary activities. Photocopy straight from the pack or visit the website at ***www.fishandkids.org*** to download black and white photocopiables. You can also find additional interactive materials to use online or with the whiteboard.

The tables below summarise relevant National Curriculum links. The activity sheets also support the QCA/DfES scheme of work for science at KS1 & 2: Unit 4B Habitats. This scheme of work can be undertaken as part of a whole-school approach to learning about the environment and how living things need to be protected.

Section	KS1 activity sheet	Science	Geography
Food chain	Who eats what?	Sc 2: 5a, 5b	
	What do you eat?	Sc 1: 2b Sc2: 5a	
Fishing	What's in the sea?	Sc 2: 4b	
	How are fish caught?	Sc 1: 2b	
The impact of fishing	Where would you go fishing?	Sc 2: 5c	Geog: 3a, 3c
	Look after the sea!	Sc 2: 5c	Geog: 5b
Eco-labels	A visit to the shops	Sc 2: 5c	Geog: 5b
	Look at the label	Sc 2: 5c	Geog: 5b



Section	KS2 activity sheet	Science	Geography	English	Citizenship
Food chain	A delicate balance	Sc 2: 5d, 5e			
	Chain of effect	Sc 2: 5a, 5d			
Fishing	Go fishing!	Sc 2: 5a	Geog: 5b		
	Plenty more fish in the sea?			Eng 2: 2b Eng 3: 1b	
The impact of fishing	All fished out	Sc 2: 5a	Geog: 5a, 5b		
	The future – sustainable fishing	Sc 2: 5a	Geog: 5a, 5b		
Eco-labels	What's inside?			Eng 2: 3a, 3d	
	Making your voice heard				Cit: 1a, 1c, 2a