

Supper in the Sea

Marine Education Programme for Years 3-8

Location: NZ Marine Studies Centre, 185 Hatchery Road, Portobello, Dunedin

Programme Description

This programme investigates the different feeding groups/trophic levels in the ocean, how they are all connected to each other, and the adaptations that species have to aid in their survival. Students will discover the senses and protective features of various sea creatures. They will look closely into how animals eat, what they eat, how they find their food, and how they protect themselves. Students will use all of this information to build a marine food web.

Extension: A seashore visit to look at the zonation of local species can also be added to the programme if the tide is suitable.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Be able to identify and name local species in English and Te Reo Māori.
- Be able to describe the unique adaptations of some of our local marine creatures have.
- Be able to build a food web and explain the connections between the different species.
- Be able to explain the different trophic levels in the ocean and what it means if a creature is a producer, grazer, predator, scavenger or filter feeder.
- Gain an understanding and appreciation of marine life, the marine environment, and what it means to be a marine scientist.

Curriculum Links

Nature of Science (NoS): Understanding about Science, Investigating in Science, Communicating in Science, Participating and Contributing.

Science: Living World - Life processes, Ecology, and Evolution.

Other Curriculum Areas: Social Studies, English, Health.

This programme can be adapted to fit the specific needs of your students, just talk to one of our educators upon booking about customising the itinerary and/or delivery for your class.

Programme Length: 2 hours

Programme Cost: \$9.00 per student (GST excl.), additional hours \$4.50 per student per hour.

Extra Information: As we will be working in a University of Otago Laboratory, students must wear closed toed shoes. Bring suitable clothing for outdoors - rain or shine (e.g. hats, sunscreen, or warm jackets). RAMs forms are available on request.

Example Itinerary

20 min introductory presentation covering:

- Introduction to the NZMSC, H&S, introduction to marine ecosystems and foodwebs

20 min exploration and investigation lab

- Explore adaptations of producers, grazers, predators, scavengers and filter feeders

40 min exploration of the NZMSC

- Looking for different creatures in the aquarium and touch tanks
- Learning about their different adaptations, habitats and feeding strategies

30 min Food web building

- How are these creatures all connected
- What role do humans play in the ocean food web

10 min wrap up and questions

Option to have morning tea or lunch at the NZMSC before or after the programme.

Resources available to support the programme can be found at www.marine.ac.nz and the Marine Meter Squared website at mm2.net.nz

Ideas for learning in class before your visit:

- Look at the NZMSC Rocky Shore Guides and become familiar with identifying some of the different creatures you may see on your visit.
- Introduce students to the concepts of ecosystems, food webs, adaptations, and habitats.

Ideas for learning in class after your visit:

- Create marine foodwebs out of pictures and string.
- Inquiry studies into trophic cascades, keystone species and/or marine protected areas.
- Brainstorm ways that we can help protect the life on our local shores, take action around your school and home. You could even do a clean up of your local environment!

NZMSC Contact

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The NZ Marine Studies Centre is part of the Marine Science Department, University of Otago.
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See www.marine.ac.nz for more programmes and resources.