



Porci's Ocean Patrol

Series 1: Episode 1 – Notes for Educators

Note: Please include one or two screen captures from the website where considered appropriate.

Introduction

Welcome to Series 1: Episode 1 of Porci's Ocean Patrol (POP), a short, beautifully animated video that educates Reception to Year 4 students about the 'Great Southern Reef'.

Porci's Ocean Patrol is a Marine Discovery Centre project and can be accessed on YouTube and the Marine Discovery Centre website:

<https://www.marinediscoverycentre.com.au/porci-s-ocean-patrol>

These notes for educators are designed to provide an outline of what young viewers can expect to see and discover when they view Episode 1. The notes also provide educators with key Episode 1 information to assist with student learning.

General introductory information relating to Porci's Ocean Patrol, and the presenters who appear in the videos, can be found on the Marine Discovery Centre website.

Let's get started!

Series 1: Episode 1 (Run time – 7 minutes and 43 seconds)

Episode 1 begins with a short, general introduction for students to the 'Great Southern Reef', located off the coast of South Australia, and to the creatures that exist from the surface to the bottom of the ocean.

This episode (as with all future episodes) has three major themes:

THEMES	EPISODE 1 TOPICS	RUN TIMES
1. Tips for keeping the ocean healthy that everyone can do.	Microbeads	0:35 to 2:44 minutes
2. Information about the sea creatures living in the ocean.	Leafy Sea Dragons	2:45 to 4:24 minutes
3. About the culture of the Kaurna people from the Adelaide Plains area.	Kaurna Language	4:25 to 6:22 minutes

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'Ocean Patrollers' (students) are also invited to send their questions into Porci.

Question 1 (35 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Ollie, asks the first question:

"What happens to the shampoo bubbles after I rinse them out of my hair and they go down the drain?"

Georgie (and Porci) let students know that all water from a bath or shower (after some treatment) goes down the drain and ends up in the ocean.

It is explained to students that a major problem in our oceans are microbeads, which are about 1mm in size (or smaller) and are often found in soap, shampoo, face cleansers and even in toothpaste. They don't break down and marine creatures eat them.

Georgie provides a list of some harmful ingredients to avoid:

- Polyethylene (PE)
- Polypropylene (PP)
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)
- Polyemethyl methacrylate (PMMA)
- Nylon (PA)

Students also learn that any items discovered at home containing these ingredients should not be thrown away and can be sent back to the manufacturer explaining why their product will no longer be used or purchased.

Question 2 (2 minutes and 43 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Billy, asks the second question:

"Is it true that Leafy Sea Dragons slurp up their food using their long noses like a drinking straw?"

Georgie explains that Leafy Sea Dragons (also called 'Leafys') only live in one place in the world, the 'Great Southern Reef'. The Leafy is South Australia's marine emblem.

Students learn that Leafy's favourite crustation to eat is the tiny 'Mysid', and because Leafys have no teeth, they actually do suck them up through their pipe-like snout and small mouth.

Students will also discover that Leafys have perfect camouflage as a protection from being eaten by other, fish so they are quite difficult to see in the water. Leafys are now a protected species, because unfortunately, some divers started taking them home as pets.

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Question 3 (4 minutes and 40 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Emily, asks Karno the third question:

“Can you please teach me some Aboriginal words?”

Karno explains that there are about 150 Aboriginal languages in Australia and in the traditional land of the Adelaide Plains it is the Kurna language.

Karno then goes on to teach students the song – “Heads, shoulders, knees and toes” in the Kurna language (5 minutes and 20 seconds into the episode).

Emily and Porci sing along, and the following words appear in both English and Kurna on the screen.

Mukarda (head), Kartaka (shoulders)

Mardpa (knees) and Gina (toes)

Mukarda (head), Kartaka (shoulders)

Mardpa (knees) and Gina (toes)

Mina (eyes), Yuri (ears)

Tia (mouth), and Mudla (nose)

Mukarda (head), Kartaka (shoulders)

Mardpa (knees) and Gina (toes)

POP Quiz Questions

Following the answers to the three Ocean Patrollers' questions, there are two quick multiple choice POP quiz questions for students. Below are the questions and answers:

1. How big are microbeads?
 - A. More than 10cm
 - B. Less than 1mm (correct answer)
 - C. Less than 2cm
 - D. Exactly 30cm
2. What colour are Leafy Sea Dragon eggs?
 - A. Bright pink (correct answer)
 - B. Purple
 - C. Red
 - D. Brown

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Asking Questions

Student Ocean Patrollers are invited to ask Porci their questions for Porci, Georgie and Karno to answer. Submit any student questions using the following link:

<https://www.marinediscoverycentre.com.au/porci-s-ocean-patrol/ask-porci>

Facts for Students

A fact sheet for students has also been developed, and provided in PDF format, as a support document for 'Porci's Ocean Patrol' – Series1, Episode 1.

Some of the facts that appear in Episode 1 form part of the 'Facts for Students' sheet and the following two websites are also referenced for additional facts:

1. **Microbeads** – The 'Plastic microbeads' section of the Australian Government 'Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water' website:

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/protection/waste/plastics-and-packaging/plastic-microbeads>

2. **Everything you need to know about Adelaide's seadragons** – the 'Green Adelaide' website:

<https://www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au/news/2021-everything-about-adelaide-seadragons>

Activity Sheets

A range of activity sheets have been developed to complement the video and student facts. These cover Foundation to Year 4 learning levels (with many providing two levels of difficulty) and focus on the English, HaSS and Science learning areas.