

Porci's Ocean Patrol Activity Sheet



Series 1: Episode 3 – Notes for Educators

Introduction

Welcome to Series 1: Episode 3 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 3. The notes also provide educators with key Episode 3 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 3 (Run time – 7 minutes and 33 seconds)

Episode 3 begins with a short, general introduction 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 3 TOPICS	RUN TIMES
1. The culture of the Kaurna people from the Adelaide Plains area.	Fishing	0:35 to 2:24 minutes
2. Tips for keeping the ocean healthy that everyone can do.	Plastic bags	2:25 to 4:28 minutes
3. Information about the sea creatures living in the Great Southern Reef.	Little Penguins	4:29 to 6:18 minutes

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

Question 1 (35 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Chase, asks the first question:

"How did you go fishing a long time ago?"

Karno explains how people had to get creative to use what they had when fishing. There were a few methods of fishing used, including, using a spear, catching fish with their bare hands, or using animal bones to make fishing hooks.

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Karno describes 2 different reeds that can be used to create a fishing line, the Knobby Club Rush Reed or sometimes called the Bull Rush Reed. This can be twisted and weaved together to form a strong string that is perfect for fishing line.

Karno also shares that these reeds were used for bindings in their shelters as well as fasteners for their clothing.

Question 2 (2 minutes and 25 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Charlotte, asks the second question:

“Why are plastic bags bad for the environment?”

Georgie explains that plastic bags can cause huge problems for the environment and marine creatures as they can become tangled or even mistake them for food. She explains how it can take 10-20 years for a plastic bag to break down, and when it does, it does not completely disappear, it just breaks up into smaller pieces that will stay there forever! Marine creatures such as seabirds, whales, fish and turtles can think small pieces of plastic are food.

Georgie explains how some plastic bags are labelled ‘Green and degradable’ although if you look closely at the label they still break down into smaller pieces and are made from regular plastic!

Question 3 (4 minutes and 29 seconds into the episode)

Ocean Patroller, Lola, asks Porci the third question:

“Where in South Australia can I go and visit the Little Penguin in the wild?”

Porci explains that these adorable Little Penguins love to hang out in Southern Australia and New Zealand, and how the Little Penguins normally live for 6.5 years although they have been recorded to live for as long as 25 years.

Porci states how there are 17 different species of penguins in the world and the Little Penguin is the smallest of them all! One of the places we can see them is off Granite Island, near Victor Harbour, although their population has declined to only 20 left on the island. Porci explains that this is due to them facing challenges such as having less fish to eat due to climate change and other marine predators wanting to make them their dinner.

Porci lets us know how we can be heroes to help the Little Penguins by, always tossing your rubbish in the bin, keeping your pets away from their hangout spots, and if you ever see anyone causing trouble for them, don't be shy and report it!

Porci also mentions that during their breeding season, from May to February, we need to be extra considerate by being quiet around their nesting areas, no flash photography, or bright lights, and if you are on a boat, steer clear of them!

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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 long does it take for a plastic bag to break up?

1. 10 to 20 years
2. 200 years
3. 5 years

2. What weed can be made into fishing line?

1. Bull Rush or Knobby Club Reed
2. Cow Slaw & Ruby Club Reed
3. Any weeds will do

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

Some of the facts that appear in 'Porci's Ocean Patrol' – Series1, Episode 3 form part of the 'Facts for Students' sheet and the following two websites are also referenced for additional facts:

1. **Plastic Bags** – Clean up Australia have a fact sheet about plastic bags:

[Single-use Plastic Bags \(cleanup.org.au\)](http://cleanup.org.au)

2. **Little Penguins** – the 'Penguin Foundation' website:

<https://penguinfoundation.org.au/about-us/species/little-penguin>

Activity Sheets

A range of activity sheets have been developed to complement the video and the facts for students sheet. 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.