



Hillarys School Excursion: Fish Dissection

Phase of learning

Years 7 - 8, Years 9 - 10

WA Curriculum

K-10 Science

Region

West Coast

Summary

Learn why fisheries scientists dissect fish and how extracting the ear bones of bony fish provides information that is used to assess the health of fish stocks.

Students will work in pairs to carry out their own dissection, examining both the internal and external features of their fish.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development is responsible for the sustainable management of Western Australia's fisheries, to ensure that we have fish for the future.

In this activity, students learn how fish dissections provide valuable research information that contributes to making informed management decisions.

Note: This activity has a maximum of 60 students per day.

Cost: \$8.00 per student

Did you know... fish have calcium carbonate structures in their heads – called 'otoliths' – that contain growth rings, rather like those found in the trunks of trees. These rings are laid down at regular intervals so, by counting the rings, the age of a fish can be determined.



Related resources

[Fact Sheet: Fisheries Management](#)

[Lesson: Fish Dissection](#)

[Poster: Bony Fish - External Anatomy \(including information\)](#)

[Poster: Bony Fish - Internal Anatomy \(including information\)](#)

[Poster: Bony Fish - External Anatomy \(simple\)](#)

[Poster: Bony Fish - Internal Anatomy \(simple\)](#)

[Hillarys School Excursion: Fishy Features](#)