

Lesson: Introduction to the Intertidal

Phase of learning

Years 5 - 6, Years 7 - 8, Years 9 - 10

WA Curriculum

K-10 Science

Region

North Coast, Gascoyne Coast, West Coast, South Coast, Indian Ocean Territories

Summary

Students will learn about the rocky intertidal zone, the organisms that live there, and the challenges they face to survive.

Outcomes

- Students will learn about the intertidal zone as a habitat.
- Students will identify adaptations that organisms living in the intertidal zone possess.
- Students will discuss the challenges of organisms living in the intertidal environment.

Duration

30 - 45 minutes

Preparation

This lesson requires you to share the Presentation: [The intertidal zone: a reef platform](#) with your students.

Background information on the intertidal zone may be found in the Fact Sheet: [Intertidal Rocky Shores](#).

Steps

1. View the Presentation: [The intertidal zone: a reef platform](#) with your class.
2. Engage students in a discussion about the zones of a local intertidal area.
 - What organisms exist in your local intertidal area and what challenges are they faced with?
 - What adaptations have they developed to deal with this harsh environment?

- Are they structural, physiological or behavioural?

Related resources

[Fact Sheet: Intertidal rocky shores](#)

[Presentation: The Intertidal Zone - a reef platform](#)

Keywords

byssal threads, desiccation, ecosystem, filter feeder, holdfast, intertidal zone, invertebrate, larvae, sessile, operculum, spore, substrate