

# **Student Resource Sheet: Fish dichotomous key**

## **Phase of learning**

Years 7 - 8

## **WA Curriculum**

K-10 Science

## **Region**

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

## **Summary**

This student resource sheet is associated with the Lesson: What's this fish?



## Fish Dichotomous Key

### Step 1

Fish has a lunate shape tail (like a crescent moon)

*go to Step 2*

Fish has any other tail shape

*go to Step 5*

### Step 2

Fish has a long and thin bill

Sailfish

Fish does not possess a long and thin bill

*go to Step 3*

### Step 3

Fish has a humped head and long dorsal fin (along length of body)

Mahi Mahi

Fish does not possess long dorsal fin (along length of body)

*go to Step 4*

### Step 4

Fish is predominantly red in colour

Yellowedge coronation trout

Fish exhibits counter-shading (dark upper, pale lower body)

Southern Bluefin tuna

### Step 5

Fish has a rounded tail shape

*go to Step 6*

Fish has any other tail shape

*go to Step 10*

### Step 6

Fish has eight dark vertical bands on the side of the body

Eightbar grouper

Fish does not possess dark vertical bands on the side of its body

*go to Step 7*

### Step 7

Fish has dark coloured face and horseshoe pattern on side of the body

Horseshoe leatherjacket

Fish has mottled or spotted pattern on the side of body

*go to Step 8*

### Step 8

Fish has flattened body shape (pancake-like)

Smalltooth flounder

Fish does not possess flattened body shape

*go to Step 9*

### Step 9

Fish has large oval shaped spots on side of body

Potato rockcod

Fish has small head and polka dot pattern on side of body

Barramundi cod

### Step 10

Fish has eel-like tail

Estuary cobbler

Fish has truncate tail shape

*go to Step 11*

### Step 11

Fish is predominantly green/blue in colour

Baldchin groper

Fish is predominantly red in colour

Mangrove Jack

## Download Files

[SRS - FISH DICHOTOMOUS KEY](#)

## Related resources

[Lesson: What's this fish?](#)

[Student Worksheet: What's this fish? - Gascoyne](#)

[Student Worksheet: What's this fish? - Indian Ocean Territories](#)

[Student Worksheet: What's this fish? - North](#)

[Student Worksheet: What's this fish? - South](#)

[Student Worksheet: What's this fish? - West](#)