

# 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)	<i>go to Step 2</i>
Fish has any other tail shape	<i>go to Step 5</i>

### Step 2

Fish has a long and thin bill	Sailfish
Fish does not possess a long and thin bill	<i>go to Step 3</i>

### 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)	<i>go to Step 4</i>

### 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	<i>go to Step 6</i>
Fish has any other tail shape	<i>go to Step 10</i>

### 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	<i>go to Step 7</i>

### 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	<i>go to Step 8</i>

### Step 8

Fish has flattened body shape (pancake-like)	Smalltooth flounder
Fish does not possess flattened body shape	<i>go to Step 9</i>

### 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	<i>go to Step 11</i>

### 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](#)