

100 MARVELLOUS MARINE ACTIVITIES TO ENLIVEN YOUR LITERACY PROGRAM



- ψ List as many words as you can to describe the Weedy Seadragon, our Victorian marine state emblem.
- ψ Write at least four diary entries from the point of view of an endangered sea creature. Be detailed in your description of what happens to the creature – use what you know about tides, waves, predators, the weather, etc.
- ψ Write a 3-line Haiku poem about the sea using the format – line 1 has 5 syllables describing “where”; line 2 has 7 syllables describing “what”; and line 3 has 5 syllables describing “how”. (eg. In the kelp forest; Dragons drift gracefully by: While kelp sways gently)
- ψ Get a copy of the book *Blueback* by Tim Winton to read as a class. Discuss the characters and their relationships with the sea.
- ψ Use one of the photos from the slideshows of a sea creature to write 5 facts about that creature.
- ψ Write a letter to the Premier of Victoria telling him why Marine National Parks are important and what you think of them. Be as convincing as you can.
- ψ What if sea creatures could talk – what would they tell you about the idea of protected areas in the sea?
- ψ Write a marine acrostic about one of Victoria’s many sea creatures.
- ψ Blow up one of the marine photos from the slideshows – have a picture chat – brainstorm as many words as you can think of that relate to this picture. Use the picture to stimulate factual writing.
- ψ Choose a marine creature. Research it and write a report about that creature.
- ψ Complete a piece of procedural writing – What steps are needed to create a Marine National Park or Marine Sanctuary?
- ψ Develop a crossword with Victoria’s marine animals and plants.
- ψ Complete a piece of narrative writing: *Shipwrecked at the Prom, Marooned on Barwon Bluff, Footprints in the Sand of the 90 Mile Beach*.
- ψ List similarities and differences between a marine animal and a similar creature on the land.
- ψ Create a poster telling people why they should look after Marine National Parks or Marine Sanctuaries.
- ψ Write a timeline showing the history of Victoria’s coastline – look for information about the changes in sea levels associated with ice ages.
- ψ Make a game called “Save Our Seas” – use sea creatures for tokens and design chance cards that relate to the Marine National Parks.
- ψ Prepare 20 Quiz questions about your nearest Marine National Park or Marine Sanctuary – write the answers on the back of the cards.
- ψ Use the fairy tales that you know as a model to write a fairy tale called “The Mermaid of the Marine Sanctuary ” or “The Sea Kingdom within the Marine National Park ”.

- ψ Make a POP UP book about the Victoria's sea creatures – make it a report or a narrative.
- ψ Organise a debate on the topic “ There should be more Marine National Parks ” – arrange an affirmative and a negative side.
- ψ Work in a group of four to tell a story about the sea. Use sound effects and props.
- ψ Draw a cartoon strip about one of the creatures that live in one of Victoria's Marine National Parks and Marine Sanctuaries. Add speech bubbles.
- ψ Draw a snorkelling outfit for yourself. Label all the parts. Now draw a snorkelling outfit for a pet dog or cat. Label the parts. What would need to be different?
- ψ Predict what a Marine National Park or Marine Sanctuary will be like in 100 years. Now predict what it will be like if fishing was allowed to continue everywhere. Illustrate both predictions.
- ψ What if humans could survive underwater? Compose a piece of writing in any style about this proposition
- ψ Write a WANTED poster for an endangered creature. Include a description of the creature, why it is wanted, and how we can help. Don't forget a reward!
- ψ Write sentences about any Marine National Park starting with the letters
M...A...R...I...N...E... N...A...T...I...O...N...A...L... P...A...R...K...
- ψ Describe one of Victoria's sea creatures in as much detail as you can.
- ψ Make a card game of “Who Am I” using the sea creatures from one of the Marine National Parks or Marine Sanctuaries – write the answers on the back.
- ψ In a group of four, write and tell a funny sea story.
- ψ Write a poem that convinces us to look after our marine environment.
- ψ Describe a Marine National Park or Marine Sanctuary in as much detail as you can. Use as many descriptive words as you can.
- ψ Become an expert on one of the marine creatures. Prepare yourself to be asked 20 questions about that creature.
- ψ Write convincing arguments to support the following proposition: “Marine National Parks are good for fishing”.
- ψ You are a Television reporter. Write and then perform an interview about the Bluff between yourself and one of the Parks Victoria rangers who look after our Marine National Parks or Marine Sanctuaries.
- ψ Read a selection of Sea stories. Write a critical review of one of them
- ψ Research legends about the sea. Write your own sea legend.
- ψ Read about sea explorers such as Captain Cook.
- ψ Design a pamphlet promoting Marine National Parks and Marine Sanctuaries to international tourists. Persuade them to visit. What are the attractions?
- ψ Watch a video about the sea such as ‘Storm Boy’, ‘Nemo’, or ‘Free Willy’. Then write a critical review of the film.
- ψ Use the Six Thinking Hats to discuss Marine National Parks.
- ψ Write an invitation for someone from Parks Victoria to come and speak to the students in your class about Marine National Parks.
- ψ Explain how to snorkel and see a fish, or how to find a crab.
- ψ Choose ten tricky sea creatures names. Learn to spell them. Plan two practise activities, for each day of the week, which will help you learn them. Test yourself at the end of the week.
- ψ List as many words as you can that end in “ine” as in MARINE.
- ψ List the advantages and disadvantages of living close to the sea.

- ψ Complete these similes using several descriptive SEA words: as scary as as dark as.....as beautiful as.....as sharp as.....
- ψ Brainstorm – uses for a shell.
- ψ Think of a famous character from a sea story, eg Captain Hook – write about that character or make a WANTED POSTER for him or her.
- ψ Write a poem: The Sea is like
- ψ Use the dictionary to find the meaning of: maritime, plankton, lee, starboard, mollusc, mariner, pelagic.
- ψ Design a new book jacket for your favourite sea story. Write a new blurb for the book.
- ψ Write a new ending for “Magic Beach”, by Alison Lester (or use any other sea story).
- ψ Write a magazine advertisement for a pen that writes underwater.
- ψ What if you could breathe underwater? List ten consequences.
- ψ Read a newspaper article about a conservation issue to do with the sea. Discuss and then answer questions about that article. Write your own article presenting the opposing view.
- ψ Collect as many newspaper or magazine articles about the sea as you can. Prepare a five minute talk which explains the what, where, how, when and who of this article. Add your own opinion of the article’s content.
- ψ Plan a picnic by the sea for four people – list what you will put in your picnic basket.
- ψ Design an Advertising Campaign to promote Marine National Parks as Victoria’s best tourist destination. Include some written work – be as creative as you can, and an oral presentation for television or radio.
- ψ Design an underwater vehicle. Label its parts. Write an advertisement persuading people to purchase it.
- ψ Write a letter from a crab persuading people not to care for its habitat.
- ψ Select a passage from your favourite sea story and practise reading it aloud as expressively as you can.
- ψ Write a letter to the editor of your local paper explaining why we should preserve our Marine National Parks.
- ψ Look up Parks Victoria on the internet – write a report about it or list as many facts as you can to use to present an informative talk to the class.
- ψ Create a postcard that could be sent from one of the Marine National Parks or Marine Sanctuaries . Draw a picture on one side and then write a letter to a friend as if you are holidaying there on the back. Tell your friend what you have been doing at the coast and what it is like there.
- ψ Choose one of the Sea stories. Write a book review for it.
- ψ Think, Pair, Share – Ways to protect endangered creatures.
- ψ Use the internet or a factual text to research a sea creature of your choice. Present your findings in any written form that you like.
- ψ Design and make a series of signs to place around one of our Marine National Parks or Marine Sanctuaries informing people of its protected status and advising them what they should do to care for it.
- ψ Role play a scene between two fishermen sitting on the pier talking about the new Marine National Parks .
- ψ Write 10 questions that you would like to ask a pirate or a mermaid or a sea captain or a sea explorer.
- ψ Write a letter to someone in another country telling them about one of our Marine National Parks or Marine Sanctuaries. Describe it and why it should be preserved.

- ψ Find a poem about the sea that you like. Practise reading it as expressively as you can. Share it with the class.
- ψ After reading one of the sea stories, complete a Literary Sociogram that shows the relationships between three or four of the characters.
- ψ Complete a Concept Map about the Sea or Fish or Boats.
- ψ Brainstorm a list of sea topics. Choose one to write a cinquain poem or a haiku.
- ψ Write sea words as pictures to show their meaning. Try WAVES, SEAGULL, SAND, KELP – what should they look like?
- ψ Write a recount about a time that you went to the beach.
- ψ Write a “That’s good.....that’s bad” story about the sea.
- ψ Keep a daily journal about all the things that you learn about the sea as you work through this unit.
- ψ Role play – you are an Australian Fur Seal, a surfer, a sea captain, a whale, a shark etc.
- ψ Write a story (it must make sense) that is exactly fifty words long called “A Sea Adventure”.
- ψ Design a badge to promote a Marine National Park or Marine Sanctuary – include a catchy slogan and a drawing.
- ψ Compare and contrast a whale and a shark.
- ψ Read a sea story. List the key elements of the plot in point form.
- ψ Write a sea song to the tune of “Three Blind Mice” or “Twinkle, twinkle Little Star”.
- ψ Make a list of as many sea creatures as you can. Classify these under three different headings.
- ψ Research a famous sea explorer like Captain Cook. Present what you have learned in any way that you choose.
- ψ Interview a grandparent or an older adult about their experiences at the beach and where they used to visit and what it was like when they were children. Prepare your questions beforehand.
- ψ Prepare a cloze activity for someone else to complete using information that you have learned about any sea creature.
- ψ Choose a water sport to research (eg scuba diving, deep sea diving, sailing) – write a piece of procedural writing which explains how to do that particular sport.
- ψ Make your own dictionary of sea words eg: A for albatross, B for boat, C for cuttlefish etc.
- ψ Make a mobile of sea creatures with some written information on the back of each creature explaining what it eats, what its habitat is like and what special features it has.
- ψ Discuss with a friend – “Would you rather be a dolphin or a shark? Why?”
- ψ Find out whether other countries have Marine National Parks – show these on a world map.
- ψ Find out about other endangered animals. What are the common conditions that cause animals to become endangered?
- ψ Write a narrative about a Marine National Park using its sea creatures for very young children. Illustrate your story creatively.
- ψ Find words in other languages that are used for “the sea” .
- ψ Think of 10 different ways to say “Save the Sea”.