

Grades 6-8

Magical Land of Oz, “Ocean”

In this episode we see why marine species are drawn to the coasts of Australia and discover that the country's three surrounding oceans - the Southern Sea, the Pacific and The Indian Ocean create a unique environment for ocean voyagers of all types.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- Describe the plight of the sea lions off of Pearson Island. What happened that caused them to begin to thrive?
- What is the cause and effect relationship between the cold Southern Ocean and the humpback whales and Australian spider crabs? *(ELD) Use a multi-flow Thinking Map to list the cause and effect*
- What happens when the spider crabs molt?
- What is unique about the Gould's petrel?
- Describe the species that inhabit Lacepede Islands. Use specific details from the episode in your descriptions.
- Why is the ocean environment unique in this part of the world?

Question Box 2

- What were some of my most powerful learning moments in the program and what made them so?
- What parts of it do you particularly like? Dislike? Why?
- What did you learn by watching this program?
- Which species described in the program interested you most and why?
- Do you think it is important for us to learn about animals that inhabit lands different than those that are native to our area? Why or why not?

Box 3 (Tasks)

- Compare and contrast the Pacific and Indian ocean
- Discuss with evidence why Sea Lions are making a comeback at Pearson Island
- Investigate the roles of prey and predators in this episode. How does each of them provide an integral part in the circle of life? Create a T Chart and list predators/prey.

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Choose one animal mentioned on the video and make an infographic to educate people

about the organism.

- Draw a picture of a Gould's Petrel and discuss why there are only two breeding colonies in the world.
- Create a food web that demonstrates how the animals in the episode are linked together and support each other's survival.

Box 4 (Extend/Real-Life)

- Discuss the means in which Australians keep people safe from sharks.
- Discuss the Great Barrier Reef of Australia and describe how global weather patterns are affecting the reef. Learn more here: <https://greatbarrierreef.org/>
- Social-Emotional Connection: Believe it or not, watching animals can be a very good mindfulness practice that can help you be more self-aware of yourself and your surroundings. Try watching a video of a jellyfish. Watch how it moves back and forth and just focus on that movement. If you have a pet, try sitting back and just watching your pet's movement for a few minutes. Focus on your pet and try and let thoughts come and go. Write in a journal, how this mindfulness practice made you feel.