

Get Hooked Schools Scoop

TERM 3 2010

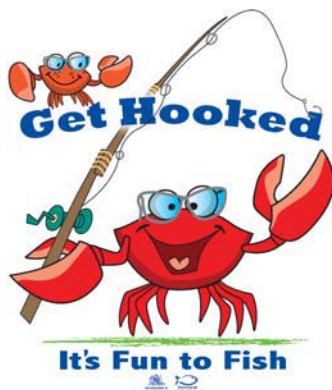


Get Hooked...It's Fun to Fish' – Proudly funded by the Recreational Fishing Trust

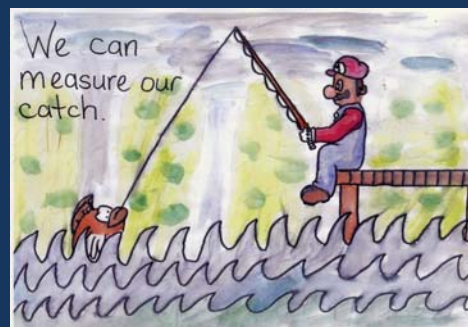
Welcome to the Term 3 edition of Industry & Investment NSW Get Hooked Schools Scoop. Since our last update, with assistance of our valuable volunteers, we have been attending more Science in the Bush events and have started our busy period of incursions in schools across the state. We have also undertaken enhancement training sessions to increase volunteer skills and knowledge to use in the class room.

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Pictures from students about the Get Hooked school visits



"We can measure our catch" by Amber at Bob's farm Public School



"Catch and Release Fishing" by Tobias at Bob's farm Public School

Check out www.landlearn.org.au for more school student work.

Promotion

Science in the Suburbs – Sydney Olympic Park

Thank you to volunteers, Bob Audsley, Robert Lamb and Gary Light who assisted Kerrie (Schools Facilitator) with the display and activities at Science in the Suburbs – Sydney Olympic Park, Sydney on 26th May. Despite the heaviest rainfall for the month falling on the day of the display, a great day was had by all. 1170 students attended the event and the teachers were glad of the marquee to retreat from the constant rain. Eager students played the 'A fishing we will go' from Code four and the fish puzzle proved a fun challenge. Six schools showed interest in registering for the program for 2011.

*Bob Audsley,
Robert Lamb
and Gary light
helping out at a
very soggy
Science in the
Suburbs*



Science in the Bush – Wagga Wagga

On 23 June volunteers Bernie Delaney, Ed & Nola Merrett experienced their first Get Hooked activity and they did a fabulous job. 17 schools with 380 students attended the exhibition and of those, 14 expressed interest in registering for 2011. In fact one school registered on the spot to participate this year and are keen to attend the practical fishing day planned for October. The number of students who attended - 380 was quite a bit smaller than Sydney but a great showing for the area. The volunteers were very impressed by the student's knowledge of fish identification. Some students attended last years event and remembered the 'A fishing we will go' activity Code four and most made a bee line to play the game again.



*Bernie Delaney and Ed and Nola
Merrett assisting with the display at
Science in the Bush at Wagga*

Incursions

Environment Day Pretty Beach PS

Pretty Beach Public school organised an Environment day on 3rd June, inviting a number of local departments/environment groups to participate. Volunteers Ross Bennett, Peter Frere and Len Hemmings represented the Get Hooked program and played the 'A fishing we will go' activity from Code four. Students and teachers were impressed with the professionalism of the volunteers, so thank you to these Central Coast volunteers for doing a great job.

Bob's Farm Public school

Students from Bobs Farm Public school (Port Stephens) completed all six codes of the program in Term 1. Teachers at the school have organised number of school activities to enhance the Get Hooked program such as, a visit to the Nelson Bay Fishing Cooperative, fishing with local fishing identity John 'Stinker' Clarke and a day of snorkelling. Some wonderful artwork samples can be seen on the front page (please check out www.landlearn.org.au for these images and others from Get Hooked registered schools).

Ariah Park Public School

Ariah Park Public school (Wagga Wagga) has completed the first four codes of the program. Teacher Tony Dehlsen has planned the in-class work combined with fishing for sport each alternate week. Students have had fun during both facets of the program set by Mr Dehlsen. Below is a photo of in-class activities in progress.



*Teacher, Mr
Tony Dehlsen
and students
working on a
ball of string
task*

Artarmon Public School

It is a very special year for Artarmon Public School. They are celebrating their centenary and have included Get Hooked... It's Fun to Fish as part of their special education program. Volunteers Graham Phillis and Allan Pike had a great time teaching an extremely enthusiastic group of junior fishers about sustainable fishing and habitat protection. Graham showed students biodegradable tackle and Alan show students how to cast their rods accurately.



Graham Phillis and Allan Pike teaching students to cast at Artarmon Public school

The Athena School

School visits have now been completed for Term 3 at the Athena school with volunteers Bill Harvey, Gary Light and Robert Lamb, teaching lessons and playing games from each of the six Get Hooked codes. The students are extremely excited about attending their fishing workshop in Cronulla soon.

Gary light leading a lesson from Code 3 'You're the Solution to Water Pollution'



Wilkins Public School

Wilkins Public School kept our volunteers on their toes with 160 students playing the Get Hooked games and learning all about sustainable fishing practices. The visits by Bill Harvey, Allan Pike, Barry Want, Robert Lamb and Gary Eggleton were an exciting part of the students week. The volunteers fielded some interesting questions from some very keen junior fishers who are keen to know more about their favourite past time.



Send us your interesting fishing questions for the volunteers to answer and you could win yourself and Catch and Release kit.



Email us at gethooked.fisheries@industry.nsw.gov.au

Woolgoolga Public School

The volunteers of the North Coast were kept busy with several incursions at Woolgoolga Public school during Term 3. Volunteers Ian Freeman and Peta Schofield ran the introductory lessons. Followed with the support of local Volunteer Ken Archbold and volunteers Jack Laos and Peter Quick from Ballina who came to lend a hand and share their experience with school incursions. Woolgoolga class teacher, Jo Goodenough stated that "the kids were buzzing with excitement" about their Get Hooked lessons.

School Incursions – Teachers please take note:

Volunteers are keen to come and assist teachers with the delivery of activities for each code in the Get Hooked program. We would encourage all registered schools to utilise the skills of our volunteers. They are an invaluable resource not only to I&I NSW, but to schools who are undertaking the program.

Volunteers are passionate about fishing and looking after the environment, they have many life experiences and stories to share. Teachers who would like to have volunteers come to school please contact the Schools Facilitator – Kerrie Deguara to arrange a visit (contact details on the back page).

NOTE: To attend a Get Hooked Fishing workshop, priority will be given to schools who have requested volunteers to visit the classroom and have completed Get Hooked... It's Fun to Fish codes.

Workshop Weeks

Schools

Expressions of interest have gone out to all registered Get Hooked schools to nominate for this year's Get Hooked Workshop Weeks. These workshops are so popular that they have been filing up quickly. However, there are still a few places available and schools have the chance to nominate their interest now. See the table below for your area workshop.

Volunteers

Volunteer assistance is needed for these workshop week events throughout the state. In the table below is the number of volunteers requested to assist for each workshop. If you are available for dates within your local area or you happen to be travelling and can help out, please contact Kerrie Deguara on 95278473.

Region	Area	Proposed Date	Volunteers needed
Sydney	Cronulla	20-24 September	5 each day
Central West	Tamworth	12 October	4
	Dubbo	13 October	1
	Orange	14 October	2
Riverina	Wagga Wagga	25 October	1
	Albury	26 October	1
	Lake Mulwala	27 October	2
	Deniliquin	28 October	3
Mid North Coast	Coffs Harbour	9 November	4
	Port Macquarie	10 November	4
	Port Stephens	11 November	4
Central Coast	The Entrance	22 November	4
	Ettalong	23 November	6
South Coast	Jervis bay	24 November	4
	Lake Illawarra	25 November	3



Central Coast and Sydney Volunteers Len Hemmings, Peter Freere, David Hickey, Allan Pike, Robert Lamb, Ross Bennett and Gary Light learning about Food Chains in the mangrove forest from Schools Manager, Louise Roberts.

Volunteer Enhancement Training

Volunteers, who have registered 15 hours for the program, are eligible to attend enhancement training. These sessions are designed to provide information, resource material and new skills for volunteers to utilise during class visits.

Wetland Awareness Training 2010

Sydney Olympic Park, 21 May

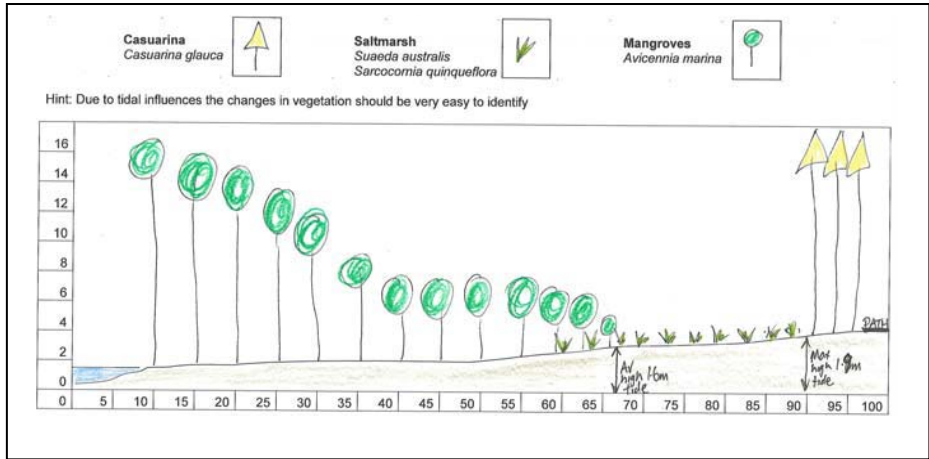
Open to Sydney and Central coast volunteers, Louise Roberts (Schools Manager) led the day, sharing her extensive knowledge of intertidal wetland habitats.

Volunteers were taken through a number of activities, at Bennalong pond where water bugs were collected, identified and the water quality determined by using the Streamwatch water quality rating equation. Then we took a walk to the Mangrove forest to discuss the importance of these species to the marine environment and food chain. Next stop was to demonstrate how to undertake a vegetation profile transect. This is used to investigate changes in the environment and help to understand the importance of the tide on intertidal wetlands.

In the afternoon a short walk to the saltmarsh in the park to identify plant species and investigate saltmarsh classified as an Endangered Ecological Community Australia wide. Then off to the bird hide to observe the commonly found water birds at Sydney Olympic Park. Increasing Volunteers knowledge of wetlands is important so they are able to impart skills onto the students.



Students fishing at Cronulla in 2009



A sample of a Wetland transect at Sydney Olympic Park

Coffs Creek, 13 July

A local Coffs Harbour ambassador (Adrian Paul), kindly ran the tour for us; he spoke about the history of the area and the importance of the creek to the local Aboriginal families. Over 200 families of Gumbangirra people lived in the small area now known as Fitzroy Park. Adrian also demonstrated the urban development impacts on the creek. Adrian pointed out the bush tucker along the way and some helpful antidotes for insect bites.



Did you know that if you crush and rub bracken fern on a bull ant bite that it will ease the sting?



Coffs Creek

We then moved to Moonee Headland where local Fishcare/Get Hooked volunteer Ian Freeman gave an informative talk about the great work other local volunteer groups are doing to clear pest plants from

the area and give native species the chance to re establish. The headland provided a great view along the coastline and out to the Solitary Islands.

The highlight of the day was seeing a large pod of Dolphins feeding close to shore and putting on a great display swimming through the waves.

All of the information given on the day will be helpful to add to the Get Hooked lessons for Codes five and six.



Coffs harbour Volunteers Ken Archbold, Ian Freeman, Ben Doerner and Peta Schofield watched dolphins frolic in the waves during their enhancement training.

Jervis Bay, 9 July

The day was led by Sue Brown, Marine Parks Officer based in Huskisson. The talk began with information about why the Marine Park was established and the importance of protecting the habitats of the bay. Next was an informative walk on the local rock

platform (Tapalla Point) which is in the Sanctuary Zone of the park. Volunteers learned about the importance of this ecosystem, identifying the different tidal zones and species that inhabit the platform, and the harsh conditions they have to endure. Interesting facts discovered included:

- 💡 There are two types of rock that make up the platform, Glendonite beds which were formed about 277 million years ago after the melting of glaciers.
- 💡 The minerals in the rocks hardened in the freezing temperatures and formed crystals these eventually broke down leaving 'casts' which then filled with sediment, this sediment also hardened in the cool climate to form metamorphic rock, leaving one type of rock embedded in another.
- 💡 The dropstones are rocks that are completely different, again during the same period with the flow of the ice down the hills, picking up rock from the ground along the way and depositing the rocks. These rocks are of completely different composition to the sedimentary rock of the platform.



Tapalla Point, Jervis Bay

Our next stop was an estuary tour; we met up in Currumbene Creek, where Sue gave an informative tour of the Mangrove forests, the sand and mudflats and some Aboriginal history of the area along with identification of some bush tucker. Volunteers really enjoyed the day and added to their knowledge bank to refer to when they visit the classroom.



Sydney and South Coast volunteers Kevin Day, Richard De Leon, Ernie Musgrove and Graham Perrin learning, about important marine habitats from Marine Parks Officer, Sue Brown.

Places of Interest

Little Mooney Creek Project

The Little Mooney Creek Sportfishing and Nature Park is far more than just a fishing training centre. The vision is to build a venue that would uniquely educate visitors about environmental sustainability by combining environmental education with Australia's most popular recreational pastime.

All the facilities at Little Mooney Creek have been uniquely designed to help individuals and groups learn everything they need to now about fishing for the Great Australian Bass – techniques and tips for casting, rods, lures and much more. The facilities include a demonstration aquarium, casting area, Golfish course, and Bass lake and Perch ponds.

The centre will soon be opened to schools. A range of programs will be available for students to undertake; these will include Aqua Rangers, Wildside Tour, Science Lab, Ecology in Action, Aquaculture and Aquaponic systems and a Spotlight prowl.

The park is located one hour north of Sydney, if you are keen to learn more about the site and programs offered check out the website for more information.

www.littlemooneycreek.com.au

The demonstration aquarium and the bass lake



Websites

Fish Habitat Network Website.

The Habitat Unit of Industry & Investment NSW has recently launched its new website 'Fish Habitat Network'. This website is a key component of the Fish Habitat project funded by the Recreational Fishing Trusts, which also funds the Get Hooked program.

The website has been developed to encourage keen recreational anglers and conservationists to network, exchange information and work together to improve areas for fish to survive and thrive!

Jump online and network with other like minded people like yourself.

www.fishhabitatnetwork.com.au



Landlearn

The Landlearn NSW webpage is a great resource for educators. A newsletter is published online each term; it provides the latest information new initiatives and links to useful websites. You can check out what has been happening with Get Hooked in registered schools with photos and student work on display. There are also links to fun games to play such as the Catchment Detox game. This game allows you to manage a catchment area to be productive and healthy, a perfect educational addition to Get Hooked Code Six 'Quality Catchments Equals Quality Fish'.

www.landlearnsw.org.au



Industry and Investment NSW Publications

The I&I NSW website is a valuable source of information with contributions and up to date information from all areas of the department. Included in this update are some samples of Primefacts, fact sheets created to provide important information about aquatic and marine species and habitat protection.

Fishing for Yabbies in NSW – This fact sheet gives some general facts on the yabby as well as important information on fishing closures, trap and net specifications and fishing regulations relating to the humble yabby. The primefact can be downloaded from the following link:

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/freshwater/Fishing-for-yabbies



Grey Nurse Shark – Grey nurse sharks are native to subtropical to cool temperate waters. Once widely distributed, they are now mainly restricted to Australia and the east coasts of the USA, Uruguay, Argentina and South Africa. Concern about the conservation status of grey nurse sharks was raised in the 1980s, resulting in the species becoming protected in NSW in 1984. Despite this protection, grey nurse sharks have declined to the point where they are now listed as an endangered species.

This Primefact contains information on the following: Description of the grey nurse shark, distribution, habitat and ecology, why are grey nurse sharks threatened, Conservation and recovery actions and Legal implications. This can be downloaded from:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/species-protection/conservation/what-current/critically-endangered-species/grey-nurse-shark/grey-nurse-shark>



Threatened species in NSW
Grey nurse shark Carcharias taurus

Many publications can be viewed and downloaded; in particular fact sheets (Primefacts). These information sheets are ideal to add as teaching and learning resources to your Get Hooked kit. We will endeavour to give links to a freshwater and saltwater primefact each edition.

<http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/fisheries>



Blue Ringed Octopus

Helpful Hints

This section of the update is an opportunity for volunteers and teachers to pass on tips to enhance delivery of Get Hooked activities.



First Aid Tips in and around water

Whenever we run activities near water there are always potential hazards. It is imperative that caution is taken to ensure the safety of all participants. Such as, at Get Hooked Workshop events, always have mobile phones available for emergency response call, always provide safety glasses and handling gloves while fishing and at the beginning of any water based activity it is essential to give a safety talk to reinforce the rules of the day and have a first aid kit on hand. The advice provided is general only in nature; please call **000** emergency response when needed. If you would like to know more about first aid procedures please go to www.stjohn.org.au. Here are a few first aid tips to keep mind.

1. Exposure – Students should wear hats and bring clothing to suit weather conditions. Water bottles (marked with name) should be kept in close proximity during periods of hot weather.
2. Hook injury – If the hook is embedded under the skin it is best not to attempt to remove it, do not apply pressure over the hook, seek medical aid for removal.
3. Bites, Stings and other animal hazards.
 - Blue Ringed Octopus (**call 000 emergency response**) - Pressure-immobilization is recommended first aid. Prolonged artificial respiration may also be required. Monitor for shock.

- Fish spines, sea urchin, and sting ray (if needed - **call 000 emergency response**) – Rinse in sea water first then immerse in hot water (as hot as patient can tolerate) and leave barb in (it **MUST** be surgically removed) recommended first aid then call for ambulance.

Dusky Flathead

- Crab/Cray/Yabby nip – immobilise and cover cut skin with bandages and monitor for shock
- Snakes – (**call 000 emergency response**). Don't wash the skin, as traces of venom left behind to identify the snake. Pressure bandages the limb. If the person was bitten on the torso, make sure your bandaging doesn't restrict their breathing. Monitor for shock.

*Brown Snake*

- Bees – (**call 000 emergency response**) remove the sting by sliding or scraping your fingernail across it, rather than pulling at it. Wash the area and apply ice to reduce the swelling. If the person has an allergy to beestings, they can fall into a life-threatening state of anaphylactic shock. The only treatment is an injection of adrenaline (Epipen). Immobilise the person, apply pressure to the bite and seek immediate medical help.
- Tick – if a tick has burrowed into the skin, grasp it behind the head with fine tweezers, as close to the skin as possible. Gently pull it straight out with steady pressure, making sure you remove the entire body. After removal of the tick, wash the site with warm soapy water and then a mild antiseptic. Cover the site with a 'band-aid' type dressing and monitor for shock.

Identifying and Listing Threatened Species

The *NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994* establishes provisions for the identification, conservation and recovery of threatened fish, aquatic invertebrates and marine vegetation. The Act also covers the identification and management of key threatening processes which affect threatened species or could cause other species to become threatened.

Threatened species, populations and ecological communities are divided into several categories:

- Species presumed extinct
- Critically endangered species
- Endangered species
- Vulnerable species
- Endangered populations
- Critically endangered ecological communities
- Endangered ecological communities
- Vulnerable ecological communities

There is also a category for key threatening processes - activities that harm threatened species or could cause other species to become threatened.

REPORTING THE CATCH OF A PROTECTED OR THREATENED SPECIES

Industry & Investment NSW has set up a database to record sightings of protected or threatened aquatic species. This information will help I&I NSW better manage these species.

To report a catch, go to the following link:

<http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/species-protection/report-it>



Trout Cod

Meet a Volunteer

This section introduces you to a volunteer, giving an insight as to why they choose to volunteer for the program and what it means to them to pass on their experiences to students.



Graham Phillis

Why did you volunteer for the Get Hooked program?

"To help children to learn the correct way to fish and learn the rules and regulations that everyone has to adhere to, and to make sure children are safe and have fun when fishing."

What is your background/experience?

"I became a Fishcare Volunteer in 2004/5 and I am now the Middle Harbour Group leader. I have about 50 years experience with fishing, ie beach fishing, estuary fishing, boat fishing, fresh water fishing and rock fishing. I am also involved in a 'boating rescue organisation' on the Hawkesbury River which gives me practical experience in boating."

How was your first visit to a classroom?

"It was quite daunting however, after talking a little bit to the children I relaxed and it became a lot easier. I am surprised now, on talking to the children, how much they really know and have learnt with the Get Hooked Program."

Graham teaching students about knots and rigging at the Cronulla workshop 2009



What have you enjoyed most about the program since joining?

"I have enjoyed meeting the children and their teachers. The children are from various backgrounds and nationalities and they have learnt a lot about the environment. I have enjoyed meeting other volunteers and I feel as though I am passing on my experiences to another generation. I especially enjoy the end of year program when a lot of school students come to Cronulla to complete their practical fishing component."

Would you recommend volunteering for the Get Hooked program?

"Definitely a 'yes'. It gives me great satisfaction to be part of the community and I am sure other people with spare time would find it very fulfilling to work with other volunteers and the staff from 'Get Hooked'."

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