REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 20108519

ACTIVITY WORKBOOK ANSWER SHEET

TO COMPLEMENT SRI'S 8-PART EDUCATIONAL VIDEO SERIES

Seal Rescue Ireland

Group 1: Ages 6-9

WORKBOOK ANSWERS

EPISODE 1 - INTRO TO SEALS

1. Rescue
   Rehabilitate
   Release

2. C) Call SRI's 24/7 Rescue Hotline

3. Grey
   Common

4. Grey seal

   1. Waterproof fur
   2. Paddle-shaped flippers
   3. Sharp, backwards facing teeth
   4. Internal ears
   5. Diving response (ability to hold their breath underwater)

Activity Box

Does this seal need to be reported... ? Yes

Based on the photo... ? Grey

Which route ...? Route B

EPISODE 2 - PLASTIC INGESTION

1. They are able to capture fast-moving, slippery prey and keep them from escaping. Their teeth work almost like fishing hooks.

2. Mark an X: rubber glove, plastic bag, face mask, fork, rope, black rubbish bag, sweets

   How many dangerous items...? 7

   What would happen if a seal...? They might not be able to digest the item. It could become stuck in their digestive system and stop them from absorbing nutrients from their food. This could ultimately lead to their death.

3. A fish

Activity Box

Mark with an X: coffee cup, balloon, plastic water bottle, can, beach ball, plastic bag, plastic knife and fork, plastic cup and straw

How many...? 8

What will happen...?

These items will take a very long time to degrade, as they are made of unnatural materials, including chemicals.

In some cases, they may not even degrade at all. For example, a plastic bottle can take up to 1000 years to biodegrade in nature, depending on the type of plastic it is made of. Plastics break down into smaller pieces of plastics, and those pieces break down into even smaller pieces, and so on. Eventually we'll end up with such small pieces that we cannot see them with the naked eye.

These tiny pieces are called microplastics. Microplastics can pollute our soil and our water, and are easily swallowed by animals, causing a great threat to those animals as well. Those animals might also end up as our food at our dinner table, causing a great threat to our health as well.

Bonus Activity

Example responses:

Single-use plastics --> Reusable alternatives

Single-use plastic water bottle -> Reusable water bottle
Single-use plastic drinking straw -> Reusable drinking straw
Single-use coffee cup -> Reusable coffee cup
Plastic shopping bag -> Cloth shopping bag
Plastic sandwich bags -> Reusable sandwich pouches or lunch box
Plastic toothbrush -> Bamboo toothbrush
Tooth floss in plastic container -> Glass container and refillable floss
Toothpaste in plastic tube -> Toothpaste in glass jar
Shampoo and conditioner bottle -> refill bottles or bar versions
Plastic body wash bottles -> refill bottles or soap bar
Plastic ketchup bottle -> Glass ketchup bottle
Washing up powder in plastic container -> Powder in cardboard box
Disposable plastic lighter -> Matches or refillable matches
Plastic razor -> Safety razor
ETC!

EPISODE 3 - ENTANGLEMENTS

1. B) To keep them warm in the cold sea
2. Ghost nets
3. Merida, Pine, Honeysuckle
4. Pick up litter that you find on the beach and dispose of it properly

Activity Box

Bycatch List:

Puffin	Whale	Squid	Ray
Seal	Turtle	Seahorse	
Dolphin	Shark	Seagull	

EPISODE 4 - WATER POLLUTION

1. Seal Pox
   Lungworm (parasite)
   Tapeworm (parasite)

2. Animals with strong... Less
   Animals with weak... More

3. Pesticides
   Hormones
   Antibiotics
   Sewage
   Fertilizers

4. Currents

5. Pee
   Poo
   Paper

Activity Box

Which one is healthier? River Ecosystem #1

Why? The first ecosystem has lots of trees, plants and grasses around the river. This vegetation can act like a buffer and store and filter out pollution before the water reaches the streams, the rivers, and ultimately the ocean.

EPISODE 5 - CLIMATE CHANGE

1. They might not be strong swimmers, so they can get swept away, separated from their mothers, injured from being tossed against rocks, or get exhausted and even drown.

2. B) Rainbows

3. C) The Greenhouse Effect

4. Solar (from the sun)
   Tidal (from the ocean's currents)
   Wind

5. Eat less meat (e.g., have a "Meatless Monday")
   Use cars less (e.g., carpool, use public transport, walk/cycle)
   Use less energy (turn off the lights when you leave a room)
   ETC

6. False

7. C) An energy source that never runs out

List 5 things in this scene...

Wind turbine
Sailing boat
Kitesurfer
Kite
Windmill

EPISODE 6 - UNSUSTAINABLE FISHING

1. Biodiversity describes the way different plants and animals live together in their environment. They are all connected and need each other to survive.

2. Overfishing. This can make it harder for seals to find any food, because humans have taken too much of it out of the seal's habitat. If they have to look too far they end up using up too much energy.

3. Plankton --> Small Fish --> Large Fish --> Seal

4. Apex Predators. Without these predators keeping the population of their prey in check, the balance of the food chain can go out of whack. Their prey would multiply and eat too much of the food source below them on the food chain.

5. True

Activity Box

How many species can you find in each?

Marine Ecosystem #1: 17 species, has more biodiversity

Marine Ecosystem #2: 7 species

EPISODE 7 - HUMAN DISTURBANCE

1. Possible answers: Rest, to feed their young, to mate

2. She might get scared off and never come back, abandoning the pup. If the pup is orphaned, they will not survive on its own.

3. Mother's milk

4. False. Grey Seals cannot swim directly from birth because they are born with a fluffy white fur called lanugo that is not waterproof. They must stay on land for the first few weeks of their life before this fur sheds. During this time they depend on their mother entirely for food.

5. Dogs can disturb the seal or scare off its mum watching from the water
   Dogs can bite and injure seals
   Seals can bite your dog and spread diseases to them
   It is illegal to disturb seals in Ireland

EPISODE 8 - RESCUE TO RELEASE

1. 1) Arrival at the centre
   2) Checkup for injuries and illnesses
   3) Being fed through a tube
   4) Learning to eat fish (Fish School!)
   5) Learning to swim in the pool
   6) Release back to the wild

2. Temperature
Weight
Visible injuries
Signs of parasites, illness or infection

3. Herring
Electrolytes
Salmon oil

4. Bathtub
Heat Mat
Rubber Mat

5. B) The other seals in the pool being ready for release

Thank you for supporting our work at

Seal Rescue Ireland