MPA Maritime Singapore Education Series 2021 Online Learning Guide

A SUSTAINABLE AND GREEN PORT

THEME 3

ISSUE 3

PROTECTING SINGAPORE'S MARINE ENVIRONMENT

You will learn:

The efforts made in protecting Singapore's marine environment

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LET'S LEARN ABOUT MARITIME SINGAPORE

HOW IS SINGAPORE'S MARINE ENVIRONMENT BEING PROTECTED WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY SHIPPING AND PORT ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE?

We have previously learnt that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has put in place standards for the maritime industry to follow so as to make sure that the impact global shipping has on the environment is reduced as much as possible, such as encouraging the use of clean energy and technologies.

We have also learnt that MPA invests in the Maritime Singapore Green Initiative to help maritime companies develop and use green technologies in their businesses, such as reducing the level of harmful emissions with the use of cleaner fuels like LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas).

Preserving the marine

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Preserving the marine ecosystem is a shared responsibility of everyone in the global maritime industry. By working together, ports, ships and other partners can reduce the negative impact that our activities can have on the environment.

Singapore is home to more than 250 species of corals in her waters, which represents about a third of the world's species. Coral reefs are important habitats for marine animals who depend on them for food and shelter. With a busy port like Singapore, the impact that shipping and port activities have on the marine ecosystem is an important concern.

This is why the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) works very closely with government agencies, non-governmental organisations, private organisations and academics to conserve and protect Singapore's marine biodiversity and environment.

Land reclamation and coastal development often affect the reef environment under water, causing damage to corals and affecting their ability to grow healthily. When plans for the upcoming Next Generation Port in Tuas were being developed, an environmental impact study was done on the affected areas. The result was a project to move and relocate the affected corals around Sultan Shoal to more suitable homes in the Southern islands of St. John's and Sisters' Islands.

A total of 2,300 coral colonies were successfully relocated in the end, with more than 80% of those corals flourishing in their new home. This shows that with good partnerships and the right emphasis on marine environment protection, Singapore's delicate marine ecosystem can be preserved and saved for future generations.



THINK ABOUT THIS:

What do you think would happen if shipping and port activities were to continue with no efforts made to protect the marine environment?



FIND OUT MORE

INTERESTING VIDEOS YOU CAN CHECK OUT ON THE INTERNET:

- · Clean ships, clean seas
- · Protecting our corals and giving them a new home
- · Keeping our marine environment clean
- <u>Singapore's Southern Islands Our Marine Lifeline</u> Through the Years
- <u>Hidden Treasures: Sisters' Islands Marine Park I</u> <u>CNA Insider</u>
- · Save-the-Ocean Sensory Play Tutorial
- · Simple ways to protect our marine environment

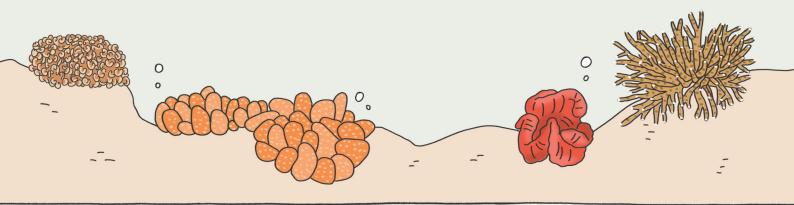


TRY THIS ACTIVITY!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SINGAPORE'S DIVERSE MARINE LIFE.

Search the internet for the different types of marine life that can be found in Singapore's waters — how do they look like?

Compile a photo collage of these different species in this space here — you can also draw them out if you want to!



CHAT ABOUT THIS:

What can you do to help protect the marine environment and its biodiversity?