



THE MINI MUSEUM

Fact file:

Caring for our Coast, NSW



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OBJECTS IN THE LID OF THE CASE

Blacklip Abalone shell



Haliotis rubra



- A Blacklip Abalone is a sea snail. They have holes at the top of the shell that are used for breathing.
- Abalone shells are used by First Nations peoples as a spoon, a bowl or carved out to create a fish hook.

Dolphin flipper (model)



Tursiops sp.



- Dolphin flippers have bones inside similar to those inside a human hand.
- Dolphins' flippers are strong, helping them to steer and turn quickly through the water.

Cross section of a midden (model)



- Middens are collections of shells, bones or tools showing First Nations peoples behaviour and diet over time.
- Middens sometimes have mollusc shells including pipis, oysters, abalone and limpets.

Oyster (cast)

Ostrea angasi



- An oyster is a mollusc with a soft body and a two part shell.
- The oyster shells can be very sharp and are used by First Nations peoples to make fishhooks, cutting tools and spoons.

Port Jackson Shark jaw (cast)

Heterodontus portusjacksoni



- The Port Jackson Shark is a blunt headed fish. Their jaws have small, pointy front teeth and flat back teeth to hold and break their food.
- Their strong jaw allows them to crush oyster shells and the spiked exterior of the sea urchin.



OBJECTS IN THE CASE

Banksia



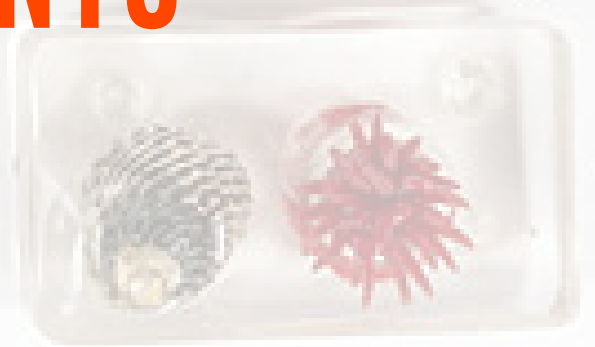
Banksia genus.



- The banksia is a cone-shaped flower, native to Australia.
- The banksia flower heads have been used by First Nations peoples as paintbrushes.
- Banksia seed capsules burst open during bush fires, allowing the plant to regenerate in the new soil.



EMBEDMENTS



Fourline Striped Grunter



Pelates quadrilineatus



- The Fourline Striped Grunter is a fish that makes a "grunting" sound when it swims.
- It has 4-6 stripes on its body to help it hide from predators.
- This fish likes to eat the Snapping shrimp.

Mat rush



Lomandra sp.



- Mat rush is a flowering, grass-like plant.
- Mat rush is a useful resource to First Nations peoples. The seeds of mat rush are roasted and ground to make a high-protein flour and the leaves are used to weave baskets and fish nets.

Neptune's Necklace

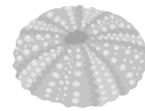


Horomosira banksii

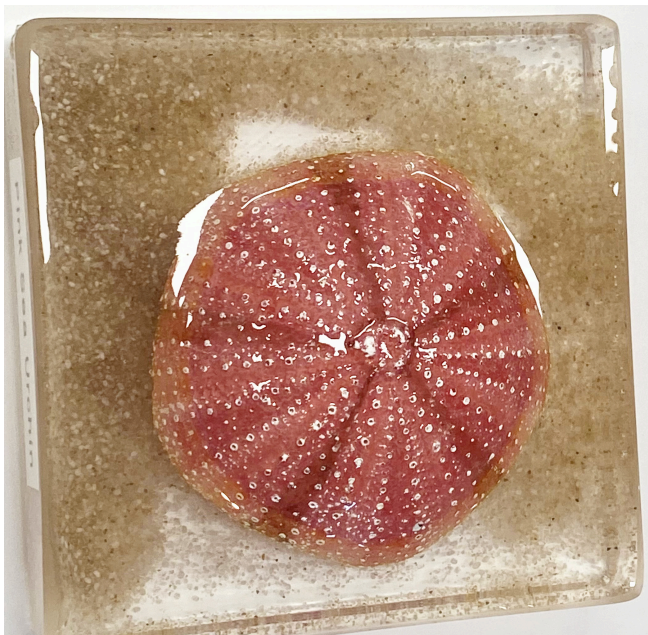


- Neptune's Necklace is a type of seaweed with squishy and soft beads filled with water.
- This seaweed provides a home for molluscs and crustaceans, keeping them safe from predators.

Pink Sea Urchin skeleton



Holopneustes pycnotilus



- The Pink Sea Urchin is a marine invertebrate with a hard shell and movable spines.
- The Pink Sea Urchin can eat Neptune's Necklace or dead crustaceans.
- The Pink Sea Urchin was part of the diet of First Nations peoples.

Pipi



Plebidonax deltoides

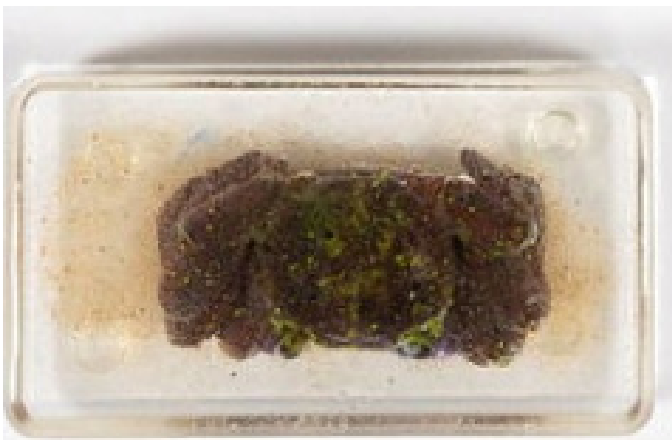


- Pipsis are molluscs with a soft body and two part shell.
- Pipsis are an important part of the diet of saltwater First Nations peoples. The shells are often found in middens.

Purple Rock Crab



Leptograpsus variegatus



- The Purple Rock Crab is a crustacean.
- They scurry and dart quickly among the rocks, and hide in the cracks. They can be quite difficult to catch.

Seagrass



Order: Alismatales



- Seagrass is an underwater plant that produces flowers and provides a home for sea creatures.
- Many sea creatures eat seagrass, including the adult Green sea turtle. When eaten, seagrass makes the turtle's fat green.

Waratah Anemone



Actinia tenebrosa



- The Waratah Anemone is an invertebrate, named after a flower called a Waratah.
- The Waratah Anemone have red tentacles that shrink at low tide and get longer at high tide.

Zebra Snail



Austrocochlea porcata



- The Zebra Snail is mollusc with unique patterns on their shells. There are no two that are the same.
- The Zebra Snail lives on rock platforms and near rock pools.

A diorama depicting a prehistoric scene. In the center, a large, smooth, white egg-shaped object rests on a dark, textured rock. To the right, a trilobite fossil is visible, showing its characteristic three-lobed body. Several small, red, spherical objects are scattered on the rocks. The background features a light-colored, possibly sandy or silty, surface with some green, grass-like plants. The entire scene is enclosed in a glass case, with a small circular vent visible at the bottom center.

DIORAMA

ANIMALS AND PLANTS IN THE DIORAMA

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Acorn Barncale | 10. Green Sea Turtle hatchling |
| 2. Black Nerite | 11. Limpet |
| 3. Blue-lined Octopus | 12. Moon Jelly |
| 4. Cart-rut Shell | 13. Mulberry Whelk |
| 5. Chiton | 14. Snapping Shrimp |
| 6. Common sea urchin | 15. Spotted Wobbegong |
| 7. Conniewinks | 16. Surf Barnacle |
| 8. Longfin Eel (elver) | 17. White's Seahorse |
| 9. Galeolaris worm (Tube worm) | |

Fact file for other creatures in the diorama are featured in the Embedments

- Fourline Striped Grunter
- Neptune's Necklace
- Pipi
- Purple Rock Crab
- Seagrass
- Waratah Anemone
- Zebra Snail

Fact file for other creatures in the diorama are featured in the Objects in the lid of the case

- Oyster

1. Acorn Barnacle



Semibalanus balanoides



- The Acorn Barnacle is a sticky crustacean that binds strongly to rock surfaces.
- The Acorn barnacle can build hard, cone-shaped shells for protection.

2. Black Nerite



Nerita atramentosa



- A Black Nerite is a black sea snail with a tough, round shell that protects it from waves
- The Black Nerite clings to rocks like a rock-climber, using its soft body.

3. Blue-lined Octopus

Hapalochlaena fasciata



- The Blue-lined Octopus is a type of Blue-ringed Octopus.
- When this octopus is scared, blue lines appear on its body to help it camouflage and hide from predators.
- They can eat small crustaceans and fish.

4. Cart-rut Shell

Dicathais orbita



- The Cart-rut Shell is a large white sea snail.
- This sea snail has a shell with deep grooves or bumps.
- The Cart-rut Shell eats tube worms and barnacles

5. Chiton

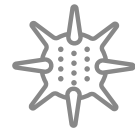


Chiton tuberculatus



- Chitons are molluscs found on rocky shores.
- Chitons have eight hard plates on their backs, like tiny shields to protect themselves.
- Chitons creep along rocks, eating algae and barnacles.

6. Common Sea Urchin



Heliocidaris erythrogramma



- The Common Sea Urchin is a spherical echinoderm.
- The Common Sea Urchin is covered in sharp spines to keep predators away.
- They are often eaten by the Port Jackson Shark.

7. Conniewinks



Bembicium nanum



- Conniewinks are small sea snails that have strong shells and live on rocky shores.
- Conniewinks grip tightly with their soft body so they don't get washed away by the waves.

8. Longfin Eel (elver)



Anguilla reinhardtii



- The elver is a young eel, and a type of fish.
- The elver can climb and swim up rivers and streams to find a new home.
- The elver can travel all the way from freshwater to the ocean as they grow.

9. Galeolaria Worm (Tube worm)



Galeolaria caespitosa



- Galeolaria worms have two heads.
- Galeolaria worms make tiny homes out of hard tubes, sticking them onto rocks.
- The Cart-rut shell is their predator.

10. Green Sea Turtle hatchling

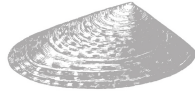


Chelonia mydas



- The Green Sea Turtle hatchling is a reptile.
- The Green Sea Turtles have paddle-like flippers, making them excellent swimmers.
- They like to eat Moon Jellies.

11. Limpet



Cellana tramoserica



- Limpets are molluscs that have shells that look like tiny hats.
- Limpets have a strong muscular foot that allows them to attach to rocks.
- Limpet shells are often found in middens.

12. Moon Jelly



Aurelia aurita



- The Moon Jelly is a jellyfish with a soft, transparent body. This allows it to be less visible to predators.
- The Moon Jelly is eaten by the Green sea turtle hatchling.

13. Mulberry Whelk

Tenguella marginalba



- The Mulberry whelk is a sea snail and is part of the First Nations peoples diet. Their shells have been found in historical midden sites.
- The Mulberry Whelk likes to eat other sea snails and barnacles.

14. Snapping Shrimp

Alpheus richardsoni



- The Snapping Shrimp is a crustacean with different sized claws.
- The bigger claw opens to create a bubble, then snaps it closed to create a shock wave to scare off predators.

15. Spotted Wobbegong



Orectolobus maculatus



- The Spotted Wobbegong is a carpet shark. They are the master of camouflage and hide on the ocean floor.
- The Spotted Wobbegong is a predator of crabs, octopus and fish.

16. Surf Barnacle



Catophragmus polymerus



- The Surf Barnacle is a strong and sticky crustacean that attach themselves to surfaces like boats, rocks and whales.
- They produce a natural glue to stay attached for a long time and can withstand strong waves.

17. White's Seahorse



Hippocampus whitei



- White's Seahorse is a fish with a bony armour to protect it from predators.
- Their colour changes from brown, grey and black due to the food they eat in their surroundings.
- They are often found using their tail to hold onto seagrass.

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