

THE MINI MUSEUM

CARING FOR OUR COAST



FACT FILE

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.



Scan the QR code to view this object in a real world context

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.



Scan the QR code to view this object in a real world context

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.



Scan the QR code to view this object in a real world context

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.



Scan the QR code to view this object in a real world context

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.



Scan the QR code to view this object in a real world context

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.

Kurrajong rope



Known as Bandany/Wayu/Maawiyirr in Wiradjuri and Buurr/Nhimin in Gamilaraay & Yuwaalaraay



The Kurrajong Rope is hand made out of Kurrajong tree bark sourced from Country.

It takes many weeks to collect the bark from the tree and then to process the bark ready for rope making. The creation of the rope then takes many hours.

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



Pipis are molluscs with a soft body and two part shell.

Pipis 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.

Zebra Snail



Austrocochlea porcata



The Zebra Snail is a 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.

DIORAMA



ANIMALS AND PLANTS IN THE DIORAMA

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

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

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

Fact file for other creatures in the diorama are featured in Objects in 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. 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.

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.