



Marine Pests!

Activity Book

Name:



What are marine pests?

Marine pests are plants and animals that aren't native to our waters. They can include seaweeds, mussels, crabs and seastars. Marine pests can reproduce quickly and rapidly spread to new areas where they compete with native species by preying upon them, and outcompete them for space, light, food. They can also introduce diseases and parasites to our native species.

How do marine pests get here?

Marine pests are often introduced by the movements of international and domestic shipping. Once here, smaller recreational boats can spread marine pests to new areas along the coast.

How can we manage marine pests?

Everyone can help to manage marine pests, even you! The most important things we can do is to keep an eye out for anything unusual when we're enjoying ourselves at the beach. If you see something unusual, report it.

How can I help?



Help **protect** our marine environment and biodiversity from marine pests.

If you see something unusual, found or sighted in Victoria, **report it to Agriculture Victoria.**



Download the **Marine Pest Deck** and keep an eye out for high-risk marine pests.

Keep an eye out for these



Invasive seasquirts or ascidians are not found in Victoria. They can overgrow and smother native species and foul marine equipment.

Northern Pacific seastars are established in Port Phillip Bay. They can produce up to 20 million eggs each year and feed on bivalves.



Wakame is an invasive seaweed that is found in Victoria. It can grow on boats and be transported around the coast.

New Zealand green-lipped mussels are not found in Victoria. It can displace our native species and impact aquaculture.



high-risk marine pests!



Asian paddle crabs are not found in Victoria. An aggressive species that can out compete native species and introduce diseases.

Asian shore crabs are found in Port Phillip Bay. They can outcompete native species and prey on crabs and shellfish.



Brown mussels are not present in Victoria. They can displace native species and foul wharf pylons, marinas and aquaculture gear.

Chinese mitten crabs are not found in Victoria. Their burrowing can damage riverbanks and shorelines.



Find the hiding marine pests

V V M T V R S H H J O Z S W A K A M E T W P A Y I B J P M Z
Q E A M R Z I B J Y S R Y Y Q V R V N H V K P Q Q I K W U M
N E D S U C A R P E T S E A S Q U I R T N D J J H B K N H T
T A P R I D J D M P R I X Z Z I M J Y R A M F H S O H P P S
G Z S E T A M E I D J F U W C J C S N I E Y R M G X B B O P
L X X I X J N N R J T A Z X Q R V A W N V S H I J C A Z Q I
C H X Z A A H S K A M W C L K P S M U J F V I K A N S R N Z
G T A D G N Q S H Z Z Z N L X Z K K D Q Q P F W J Q T Y N G
V S D R U B G U V O K F M M Z G E L D Y V L P B E J R M O N
G U H B R Z I R A X R Q B I K G O V J A C A N L Y S B S R U
X F R Q W I U P E R E E I X Q U C T X Z U B I Z U C L C T V
T D T X C D S U E E I P C V R Q D U P U X R Q A U H N K H F
L R A T N P F M V M N U B R M C G X D G U O L H O A Z K E C
A A R K G Q R N U Z I M M E A T E R E D G R W G R P R L S R D
Q E C L S S K T K D N G U C L B F O P T W N A R F R O C N U
L W D V S W K O M Q C E F S A D J K C L U M V Z C U L Y P M
L U G E Q C T N N T B R P K S U F D G Q F U K H S M J D A Y
U J F N V P T X A E O C A H L E L R F K T S Q Y E U W S C U
V O H X R L E M P J U X C B S Y L E W K I S S P G S H D I V
W L Z W O X H S E T I A J J K B X O R G Q E Q Y C S Q H F K
Q Y S C M W F I G M L L H A M O M R U P J L G A J E F V I W
O L G H V Z I H W U E B J O H L L V V I A L X Y Y L V F C R
M Z V K H B L A C K S T R I P E D F A L S E M U S S E L S K
P S C D J X V S Z O U L U P W U J E F F N A D Y Q S V S E Y
O Q B L A C K S T R I P E D F A L S E M U S S E L F D U A Z
M C H I N E S E M I T T E N C R A B N R K W Y S P L N K S X
N E W Z E A L A N D G R E E N L I P P E D M U S S E L U T O
T T L K M L Q D T J Z Z E A S I A N P A D D L E C R A B A Z
F M L U N Y V H N J O W O E F N L Q A K T Z V Q V C M K R U
M M A X N O W J M J Y C W K R D O Y H O L C Q K F C B A X T

Aquarium Caulerpa

Asian green mussel

Asian paddle crab

Asian shore crab

Black striped false mussel

Brown mussel

Carpet sea squirt

Charru mussel

Chinese mitten crab

Harris' mud crab

New Zealand green-lipped mussel

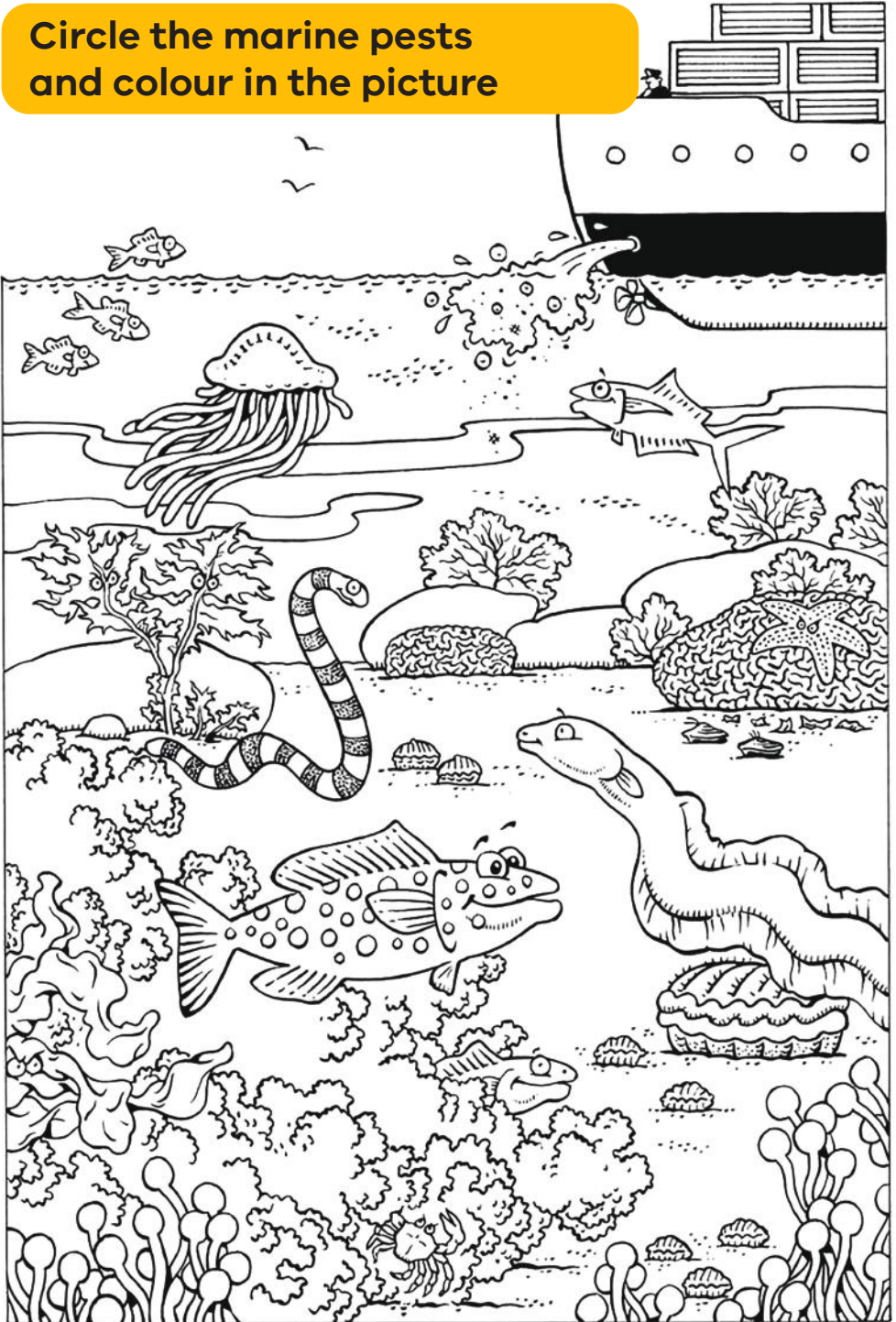
Northern Pacific seastar

Wakame

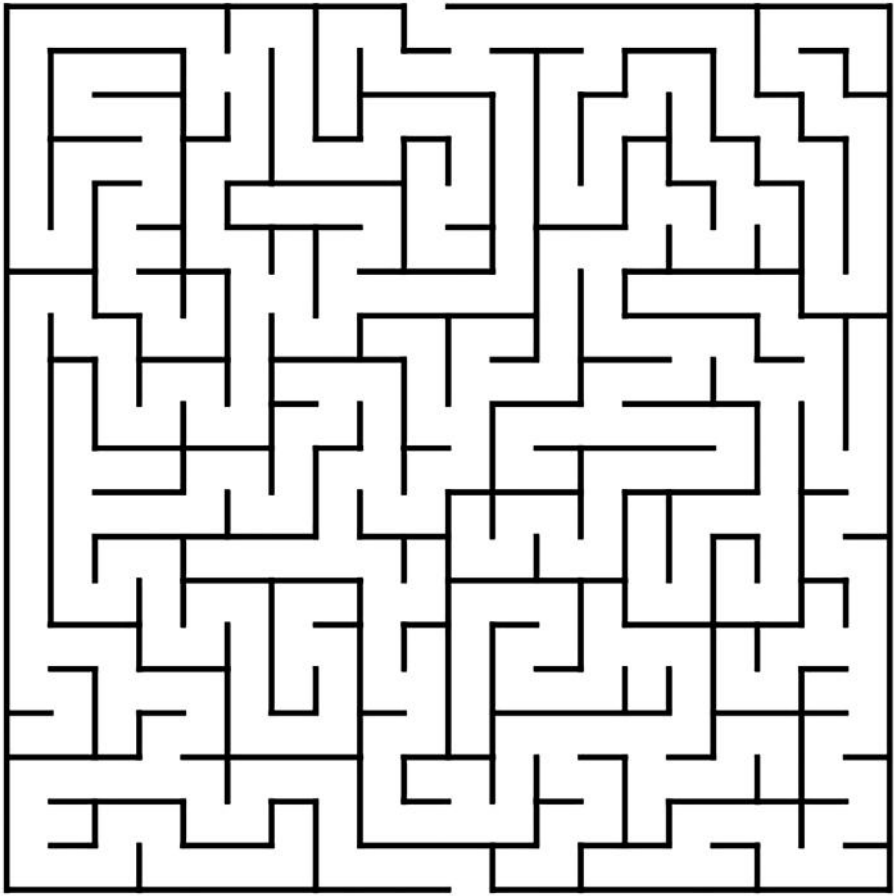
Connect the dots to find the pest



Circle the marine pests and colour in the picture



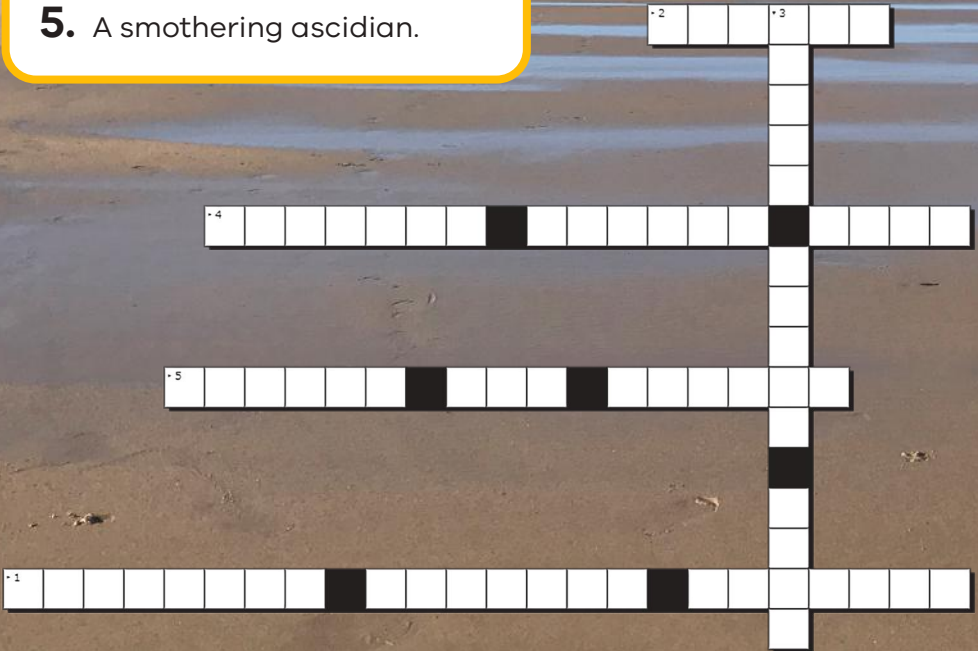
Help find the Asian shore crab!



Asian shore crabs can be found in the rocky intertidal areas of Port Phillip Bay, after most likely hitching a ride in the ballast water of an international ship.

Marine pest crossword

1. A marine pest with five yellow legs.
2. An edible invasive seaweed.
3. A crab with banded patterned legs.
4. This crab has furry claws.
5. A smothering ascidian.



Unscramble the letters to reveal the marine pests

SIEEHNC TINTEM ACRB

ENW AENDZLA GENRE LPIDPE MSLESU

HONRRENT FPCCIA ESASTAR

IEASIVVN SARTEUISQ

ROWBN USMLES

ANIAS DAPLDE RACB

WKMAAE

IASAN EHRSO BCAR

Interested in learning more?

The following websites have lots of great information on marine pests and the marine environment

Visit

[www.vic.gov.au/
marine-pests](http://www.vic.gov.au/marine-pests)

or scan the code



Visit

[www.visitsealife.com/
melbourne/schools](http://www.visitsealife.com/melbourne/schools)

or scan the code