

Flounder

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Focus: Observe a flounder and identify its features with adaptive significance to its habitat on the sandy bottom of the ocean.

Resources: Video of flounder in its habitat.

Questions/instructions

We're going to watch a video that shows shots of a flounder living on the sandy bottom of the sea. The flounder has some features that help it live in this environment. Watch the video carefully. After the video I want you to tell me about the features that help the flounder live in its environment.

Play video.



1. What is special about flounders that help them live in the sandy bottom of the sea? Tell me as many things as you can.

Prompt: How does that help them?

Colour effective camouflage — identifies:

	% responses	
	y4	y8
feature and explains value	16	24
feature only	24	39

Flat shape of body — identifies:

feature and explains value	15	39
feature only	22	25

Eyes on one side of body — identifies:

feature and explains value	4	18
feature only	10	14

Side fins — identifies:

features and explains value	6	8
feature only	10	12

Tail — identifies: feature and explains value

feature and explains value	11	9
feature only	7	5

Total score: 6-10	2	10
3-5	26	47
1-2	43	33
0	29	10



Commentary:

Only 57 percent of year 8 students and 28 percent of year 4 students obtained scores of 3 out of 10 or higher.