

Eating jellyfish could save endangered fish

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Scientists think they have found an answer to the problem of food shortages. One solution could be for us to eat jellyfish. This could also help to protect fish and other sea life that are endangered.

Researchers from the University of Queensland in Australia

conducted a study of fishing around the world. They discovered that fishing nets caught 92 endangered species of seafood and 11 species of marine life classed as "critically endangered". The researchers said this was not illegal as the creatures were not protected. Researcher Dr Leslie Robertson said: "Despite national and international commitments to protect threatened species, we actively fish for many of these threatened species."

The researchers warned we are eating species of fish and other sea life that are on the brink of extinction. They suggested that eating jellyfish could help protect fish that are in danger of disappearing from our seas and oceans. Jellyfish could become a common sight on menus, and we could ask for jellyfish and chips instead of fish and chips. The researchers said jellyfish could be a sustainable alternative at seafood restaurants and fish shops. Dr Robertson said seafood is "not as sustainable as consumers would like to think". She added: "It is possible to manage our fisheries sustainably and eat species that can survive the fishing pressure. We just have to care about weird-looking squishy things like sea cucumbers."

Sources: independent.co.uk // sciencealert.net / abc.net.au

Writing

We should all eat more jellyfish instead of meat and endangered fish. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

scientists / food shortages / jellyfish / endangered / fishing / seafood / nets / illegal / species / on the brink / extinction / danger / menus / fish and chips / survive / weird

True / False

- a) Scientists have found the answer to food shortages. T / F
- b) The research is from a university in Sydney, Australia. T / F
- c) Over 100 endangered species of marine life are caught in fishing nets. T / F
- d) It is not illegal to catch the endangered species. T / F
- e) Researchers said we are eating fish that are in danger of extinction. T / F
- f) Jellyfish and chips could soon be on restaurant menus. T / F
- g) Researchers said jellyfish are not a sustainable alternative to fish. T / F
- h) A researcher said we shouldn't care about squishy sea cucumbers. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. answer | a. widespread |
| 2. shortage | b. found |
| 3. endangered | c. promises |
| 4. discovered | d. lack |
| 5. commitments | e. dying out |
| 6. brink | f. soft |
| 7. extinction | g. solution |
| 8. common | h. substitute |
| 9. alternative | i. at risk |
| 10. squishy | j. edge |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Do you worry that fish are on the brink of extinction?
- c) What would happen if many fish became extinct?
- d) Would you order a jellyfish dish in a restaurant?
- e) Do you have a favourite fish dish?
- f) What do you think of fish?
- g) What do you think of sea cucumbers?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

Phrase Match

1. an answer to the problem
 2. help to protect fish and other
 3. 11 species
 4. not illegal as the creatures were not
 5. national and international
 6. on the brink of
 7. disappearing from our seas
 8. jellyfish could be a sustainable
 9. It is possible to manage our fisheries
 10. weird-looking squishy things
- a. alternative
 - b. protected
 - c. commitments
 - d. sustainably
 - e. of marine life
 - f. and oceans
 - g. like sea cucumbers
 - h. of food shortages
 - i. extinction
 - j. sea life

Discussion – Student B

- a) How serious is the problem of food shortages?
- b) What would you do about food shortages?
- c) What do you know about jellyfish?
- d) How tasty do you think jellyfish might be?
- e) How could you cook jellyfish?
- f) What do you think of people fishing for endangered species?
- g) Do you think eating jellyfish would help our world?
- h) Would you eat jellyfish?

Spelling

1. the problem of food soahgerts
2. One olitsoun could be for us to eat jellyfish
3. fish and other sea life that are aendrgnede
4. this was not aligell
5. the rucestrae were not protected
6. threatened ipeceses
7. on the brink of ciotxnenti
8. disappearing from our seas and osanec
9. seafood is not as nlasbiestau
10. survive the fishing srespure
11. rdwie-looking
12. uqisshy things like sea cucumbers

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. i	4. b	5. c
6. j	7. e	8. a	9. h	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Jellyfish

You think jellyfish are the most important marine life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): dolphins, plankton or tuna.

Role B – Dolphins

You think dolphins are the most important marine life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): jellyfish, plankton or tuna.

Role C – Plankton

You think plankton are the most important marine life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): dolphins, jellyfish or tuna.

Role D – Tuna

You think tuna are the most important marine life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): dolphins, plankton or jellyfish.

Speaking – Marine Life

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Seahorses
- Dolphins
- Shrimps
- Oysters
- Jellyfish
- Plankton
- Tuna
- Whales

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.