

BREEF Teacher Training Workshop Lesson Plan



Name: Yves Pierre

Subject: General Biology

Grade Level: 7-9

Lesson Title: Fish Identification

Date: 22nd July, 2007

Time: 70 minutes

Lesson Purpose/Rationale: Although we are who people who catch and consume fish on a daily basis, many of us are not familiar with some of the fish that we consume. Therefore we will look at the features of some Bahamian fish so that are able to identify them.

Objectives: At the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

1. Describe the tail shape of different fish and note their distinct coloration or markings.
2. Define terms used to describe fish, their actions e.g. spawning.

Resources: Large pictures of: mutton snapper, marlin, grey snapper, goby, moray eel, Nassau grouper, Black grouper, Queen angelfish, juvenile Rock beauty, Bluestriped grunt and Banded butterflyfish.

Procedure:

Introduction: Find out which students eat fish, and ask them to name the types of fish that they eat. Ask them to describe the fish that they eat. Show the pictures of the fish and ask them to identify them.

Development:

Display the photo of the mutton snapper and show them that the tail fin is forked and that it has a spot on the mid-body. Show that fish can also have other tail shapes e.g. lunate (marlin), squared (grey snapper), rounded (goby), tapered (moray eel). They should note that the type of tail correlates to swim speed.

Display photos of the Nassau grouper and Black grouper. Ask students to make observations about the colour pattern so that they are able to distinguish the two species. They should note that some fish are able to change colour to camouflage with their surroundings or can change colour for breeding e.g. Nassau grouper in spawning aggregations.

The picture of the rock beauty juvenile will be displayed to show that an ocellated spot as a defining mark.

They will also differentiate between the bands of a banded butterfly fish and the stripes of a bluestriped grunt.

Assessment: The teacher will call out five descriptions of fish and students will write the name of the fish that corresponds to the description.

Extension Activities: Take students to snorkel so that they can see some of the fish identified or show a coral reef video for fish ID purposes