

For Seafood Industry Workers

GET ON BOARD

If you are a fisherman, aquaculturalist, seafood processor, or some other type of seafood worker, why not get on board with SIPS? It is a great way to engage with your local community, and help address some of the misconceptions people may have about the industry.

Through SIPS, you can:

- educate people about the real seafood industry (not the ‘big bad’ industry portrayed by the media)
- spread some positive messages about the seafood industry and how it operates responsibly and sustainably
- help people understand that the seafood industry is an important part of their local community
- explain what you do for a living, and what careers are on offer in the seafood industry.



HOW IT WORKS

If you volunteer to be part of SIPS, you will be ‘partnered’ with a primary and/or high school group(s) by the SIPS Project Officer. Depending on your availability and what you are happy to do, you may visit the group at their school, have them visit you on an excursion, and/or keep in contact with them through emails, texts or social media (e.g. when you are out at sea).

The first SIPS partnership was created in Tasmania in 2010 between local fisherman, Bryan Denny, and a Year 4 class at Lauderdale Primary School. Bryan is a commercial diver, abalone diver and crayfish fisherman.

Bryan came to visit the class at their school, where students enjoyed seeing and handling fishing equipment, including an aluminium dinghy and scuba gear.



Students asked questions about target catch, fishing location, marine resources, logistics and career opportunities.

Bryan kept in contact with the class, sending them regular email updates when he was out at sea. The class calculated his catch and used a navigational chart to map his progress.

“Not only was it good fun for me, but it was great for my son. Suddenly he’s got a real understanding of what I do for a living and the kids in his class are like ‘oh wow, your Dad does THAT’! Fishing’s not like other jobs. The kids were a bit shy to start with, but they must have been talking about it because all of a sudden they started asking me about the size of an abalone, and how much diesel I put in the boat, and how much I earn! The day I took my gear in to show them, I reckon my wetsuit was put on and taken off about 28 times. I gave the class a chart and then emailed them to tell them where I was fishing. They plotted where I’d gone, how many nautical miles I’d done, and even how much diesel I was using and the cost of it.”

Bryan Denny, Commercial Fisherman