

# Website Scavenger Hunt

**Grade:** 9-12

**Subject:** All

**Duration:** One lesson

## Objectives

*It is expected that students will:*

- Describe some of the research and conservation programs underway to protect species at risk on Canada's Pacific Coast, using information on the *Conservation in Action* website.

## Overview and Background

The *Conservation in Action* website describes the Vancouver Aquarium's work to protect and conserve rockfish, killer whales and Steller sea lions. The site gives background information on the biology of each species, follows scientists into the lab, the field and the community, and suggests ways that students can get involved with the conservation of these important ocean animals.

## Procedures

Students:

1. Visit the *Conservation in Action* website  
<http://vanaqua.org/conservationinaction>
2. Complete the *Web Quest: Conservation in Action Scavenger Hunt*.
3. Work in small groups to discuss questions.

## Materials and Resources

- Computer and Internet connection
- *Web Quest: Conservation in Action Scavenger Hunt*

## Evaluation

Use the following to assess student work.

Sample Criteria – Research Skills	
To what extent did the student:	
1. Interpret and synthesize the information effectively	5 4 3 2 1 0
2. Take a logical and consistent approach to communicating the information	5 4 3 2 1 0

## Web Quest: Conservation in Action Scavenger Hunt

<http://www.vanaqua.org/conservationinaction>

This website gives you a backstage pass to tour behind-the-scenes at the Vancouver Aquarium. You will learn about three featured animals – rockfish, killer whales, and sea lions – and the Aquarium’s work to understand and protect them. Read through the website, play the games, watch the video clips and then complete the questions below:

### Rockfish

1. Why are rockfish vulnerable to overfishing?
2. How can scientists and experts who SCUBA dive contribute to the conservation of BC rockfish?
3. The term “rockfish” describes a number of species in the same family. What do BC rockfish species have in common? What are some ways they differ from each other?

### Killer Whales

1. Discuss the different killer whale sounds and why sound is important to this species.
2. Outline how the public’s views on killer whales have changed.
3. Describe the threats to British Columbia’s killer whale populations.
4. How can scientists and decision-makers use the data collected by the BC Cetacean Sightings Network?

### Steller Sea Lions

1. Over 85% of the Steller sea lion population has disappeared. Present two hypotheses that scientists are currently researching to explain this mystery.
2. Describe one form of technology that scientists are using to learn more about Steller sea lions.
3. Watch the video clips on Steller sea lion scat. Why is scat an important research tool?

### Group Discussion

1. What did you learn by reading this site?
2. Discuss any questions you have about killer whale, rockfish and Steller sea lion conservation that this site did not answer.
3. What role should governments play in protecting species at risk in Canada? What role should zoos and aquariums play? What role should individuals play?
4. Discuss the variety of careers and skills needed to study and protect species at risk.
5. Who are the authors of this site? Who provided the funding?