

G 5.3 FISHING AND AQUACULTURE

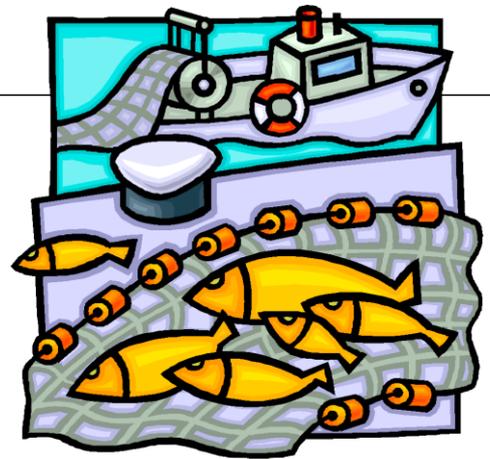


G5.3.1

The development of this topic should be in general. This topic should be taught without too many details on how to fish for Dorado. Through a general overview, the children should learn mostly about the methods of fishing with the feather and nets (called 'ċimi' in Maltese). Resources: Writing, pictures, drawings or videos.

Research by Etienne Vella - Għajnsielem

Malta is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea, and so, fishing was always important for the Maltese people. In Malta, there are full-time fishermen (fishing is their only job), but there are many more part-time fishermen (fishing is not their only job).



A. The fisherman's job starts on land

- ❖ He cleans repairs and paints the fishing boat every season to keep it in the best condition possible. So that it will not be dangerous.
- ❖ He removes everything that got stuck in the nets and traps, after each fishing trip.
He repairs any damage which took place.
- ❖ He prepares the fish food he uses whilst fishing.
- ❖ He goes to sell the fish he caught.



Worth mentioning is that full-time fishermen are constantly decreasing. **In fact, there are more 'Part-Time' fishermen than 'Full-Time'.**

Full-time fishermen are those whose actual job is fishing. Part-time fishermen are those who also have another job besides fishing.

There are many reasons why full-time fishermen are decreasing. These include:

- ❖ There are many risks at sea, such as the bad weather and storms that fishermen have to deal with.
- ❖ This is a very tough job.
- ❖ Fishermen spend whole days separated from their families.
- ❖ Sometimes, after spending whole days at sea, the catch might not be good and so, the fishermen do not earn any money.
- ❖ Catches are constantly declining and, for this reason, the profit/earnings fishermen make is also decreasing.
- ❖ Another problem is that marine machine equipment, such as *GPS*, Radar and '*Skandal*', is very expensive and even the fishing boat itself requires a lot of money to retain it's good condition.



- ❖ Another problem Maltese fishermen have to face is the competition with foreign French and Italian fisherman who could be much better equipped for fishing than the Maltese. For example,

the Italians and French use the net to catch tuna, whilst the Maltese fish for tuna using the long line (the 'konz' in Maltese). Hence, we can say that the Italians and French catch more fish than Maltese fishermen.

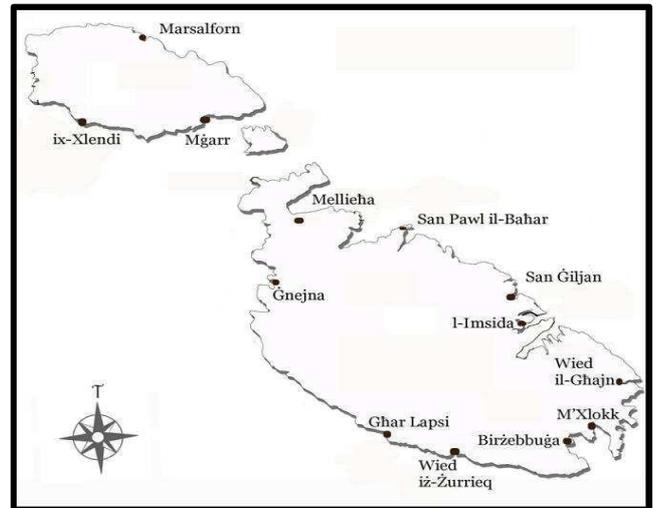
B. Fishing Villages

The main villages for fishing in Malta are:

- ❖ Marsaxlokk
- ❖ St. Paul's Bay
- ❖ Żurrieq

The main villages for fishing in Gozo are:

- ❖ Mgarr
- ❖ Marsalforn



C. Fish

The main types of fish caught in our country are:

dorado

tuna

swordfish

bogue

dusky grouper

Atlantic mackerel

The caught fish is taken to the fish market. In 2015, the fish market was in Valletta but there are plans to take it to Marsa. From the fish market, the fish is taken to be sold in fish shops (the fishmonger), restaurants and hotels.

The sea surrounding the Maltese Islands is divided in different parts. Every fisherman goes fishing in his area - called 'rimja' in Maltese.

D. Fishing Boats

The sea boats used by Maltese fishermen are:



The 'Luzzu'

A 'luzzu' in the bay of Marsaxlokk.

Note that the front and rear parts of the 'luzzu' are pointy.

The 'Kajjikk'

The 'kajjikk' is like the 'luzzu' but note that the rear part is flat.



The 'Skuna'

The 'skuna' is a large boat equipped for fishing for longer periods; it can cope better with bad weather. For this reason, fishermen use this when they go fishing for a long period of time.