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Functional Skills Level 2 ENGLISH

Paper 1 Reading

Insert

The three sources that follow are:

Source A: a website article

Source B: an extract from a podcast

Source C: a leaflet

**Please open the Insert fully
to see all three sources**

Source A

HOME

NEWS

HELP ANIMALS

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PETA**People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals****FISH IN TANKS? NO THANKS!**

Fragile tropical fish were born to dwell in the majestic seas and forage among brilliantly coloured coral reefs. They suffer miserably when they are forced to spend their lives in glass tanks.



The same is true of river fish. Robbed of their natural habitats and denied the ability to travel freely, they must swim around endlessly in the same few cubic inches of water.

The ornamental fish industry catches and breeds as many fish as possible, with little regard for the creatures themselves. While some coral is protected by international agreements, most fish who end up in aquariums are not. Up to 98% of fish sold in pet stores come from the wild. More than 30 million fish are captured every year to support a worldwide hobby worth almost £150 million.

Many tropical fish destined for tanks and aquariums in homes and businesses are caught illegally using poison. Collectors douse coral reefs with cyanide, which is ingested by the fish who live there. This stuns the fish making them easy to grab by hand or net. Studies have shown that as many as 75% of fish poisoned with cyanide die within hours of capture. The cyanide also kills coral and millions of other fish and microscopic animals.

Freshwater fish suffer a different but equally tragic fate. Most goldfish are bred in giant tubs then sold to zoos and pet stores. Many are doomed to live in plastic bags or bowls, neither of which provides the space or oxygen that goldfish need.

Please don't support the ornamental fish trade by purchasing fish. Fish are beautiful; keeping them in tanks is not. Perhaps if you are considering a fish tank for your home, you should think like a fish and ask if you would prefer a life in the wild or behind glass walls.



Source B

PETS PODCAST

Hello and welcome to our latest podcast about choosing and keeping pets. Let's meet today's guest – Dr Jane French – who describes herself as an ichthyologist.



- Interviewer: Dr French, I doubt many of our listeners know what an ichthyologist is!
- Dr French: An ichthyologist studies fish. I'm also an aquarist – someone who keeps fish as pets.
- Interviewer: Right. I've never really understood the attraction of a pet that you can't cuddle or take for a walk. It's common knowledge that they help humans to relax and I suppose you always know where they are! What else makes them good pets?
- Dr French: Many reasons. They are space-saving, in that they have a fixed area of the room and they never make any noise! They generally come without the big food costs and vet bills associated with other pets. Fish are fairly low maintenance, although you must allocate time to clean the tank. Keep the water in good condition by maintaining a constant temperature and cleaning or changing the filter regularly.
- Interviewer: What other care requirements do fish have?
- Dr French: Fish need copious space. One general guideline is that you should provide three gallons of water for every one inch of fish. Chlorine in tap water can be lethal to fish so treat water properly before putting it into the aquarium. A properly working air pump is necessary to provide oxygen.
- Interviewer: What about feeding?
- Dr French: Overfeeding is a major cause of problems for fish. Uneaten food and waste material are broken down into ammonia and nitrites, which are toxic. One expert recommends providing only as much food as your fish can eat in 30 seconds.
- Interviewer: Thank you, Dr French. After the break, we will be discussing the equipment you need if any of you fancy becoming an aquarist!

Source C

Included in every visit is a chance to dive in and explore the all-new Underwater 4-D experience. Read on to find out about the other wonderful experiences and projects available as part of our mission to bring the wonders of the sea right up close.

Sea Life Centre's Penguin Ice Adventure offers you the unmissable opportunity to feed a penguin and learn all about their diet, habitat and different cheeky personalities. Our Gentoo Penguin Breeding Programme welcomed a fluffy chick when a rare baby Gentoo penguin was born at Sea Life Birmingham.

Get ready for a journey alongside darting sharks, gliding rays and a gargantuan rescued turtle in our 360-degree Ocean Tunnel. Take a journey into our underwater world and meet our incredible creatures. Marvel at the sharks swimming overhead and underneath as you walk through the sea in this truly unique experience.

Visit the Jelly Invaders Zone and prepare yourself as the mysterious lives of jellyfish are revealed in a totally new light! Be mesmerised by enchanting jellyfish as they dance around magical tanks, where multi-coloured spotlights emphasise their beauty. Despite having no brains or bones, these dazzling creatures are resilient survivors, even outliving dinosaurs!

And of course, no visit to Sea Life Birmingham would be complete without a hands-on session in the Interactive Rockpool.

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Source B and Source C**

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