



## REPORT ON KLEINMOND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



During the March school holidays, Whale Coast Conservation staff hosted an educational holiday fun program for a group of grade 6 and 7 Kleinmond Primêr learners.



The day started at the Bot River Estuary where Sheraine explained the various factors polluting the estuary, how the estuary functions and how this is affected by the man-made bridge crossing over to the beach.

Shirley Mgoboza led the learners closer to the beach to talk about the sand-hoppers which are part of a group of

beach cleaners. The little creatures found in the sand under the kelp made these learners very excited and interested to search for more. They were amazed to know that



they have such small creatures living just under their noses performing the vital function of recycling washed up kelp.



Jandre talked about the other group of beach cleaners, the plough shells which feed on the dead animals that the sea washes on to the sea shore.

The group threw bait into the water and watched the plough shells coming out from under the sand to feed on the bait.



In the photo above the plough shell is moving toward the fish bait by following its chemical trail.



Jandre and a grade 7 learner looking at the plough shell as it feeds on the fish bait.



After a short lunch break, Sheraine showed the group the different groups of shells one finds. The learners sorted the shells and identified them, using posters with the shell groups' names.



Learners were sent out to find different types of shells on the beach and then matched these to the groups illustrated in the show room.



The final activity of the day was a quick lesson on shark egg cases. The learners showed a lot of interest in this and asked many questions.

**WCC would like to thank the Kogelberg Branch of the Botanical Society of SA for the generous donation that enabled WCC to offer the educational holiday programme to Kleinmond learners.**