

Seasonal Water

Temperature Changes

Water temperatures have been recorded beneath Busselton Jetty since 2001. This program is one of the longest continuous water temperature data logs in Western Australia. Scientists use the temperature of the water to help them understand behaviours and changes they have observed in the environment.

The water temperature changes through the seasons over a year as it is influenced by ocean currents, wind and sunshine. A change of temperature by just 1°C can have a large impact in the ocean.

- Using graph paper, plot the monthly water temperatures below on a line graph. Firstly draw up the X and Y axis and name them. Remember that "time" (months) always goes on the X axis.

Month	Average Monthly Temp °C
January	22.6
February	22.6
March	22
April	20.5
May	19.1
June	16.1
July	14.9
August	15.8
September	17.2
October	19.2
November	19.9
December	20.5

- What is the warmest water temperature? In which month/s does it occur?

- What is the coldest water temperature? In which month does it occur?

