

**DURATION:** 1-2 lessons

## PRE-READING

Refer to the 'Thought Experiment' on Page 15 in the Voiceless Fact Sheet, *Across Land and Sea: Live Export Explained*. This is the basis for the role-play.

## PRE-ROLE-PLAY

Before you begin the role-play, ask students the following question:

- Is it our duty to engage in the issue of live export? Why/Why not?

## CONDUCTING THE ROLE-PLAY

1. In pairs, students write a short account of the experience of life on board the ship for the sheep. They may like to write this in 1st person, from the point of view of the sheep, or 3rd person omniscient.
3. Mark out a 4x4 m<sup>2</sup> square with chalk or cones then get the class to stand in the space. You may need to make it 8x8 m<sup>2</sup> depending on the size of your class.

### What should the narrative include?

- Where the ship is leaving from and destined for.
- A range of potential scenarios the animals may encounter. Refer students back to the Fact Sheet to extract details.
- Mention of a vet, a stockperson, sheep in the middle of the pen, sheep on the edges of the pen, a pregnant sheep, an injured sheep.
- References to storms and/or increasing temperatures.

4. Allocate the students the following roles:

- vet;
- stockperson;
- narrator/s (the writers);
- sheep inside the pen;
- a few sheep outside the pen.

Note: Sheep inside the pen can also be given roles. For example, some who lie down, one who is pregnant, ones who are on the edge near food, one that falls over and can't get up due to heat stroke, others in the centre who can't get to food, some that get sea-sick when the ship rolls around, etc.

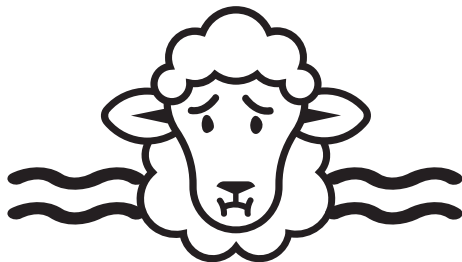
2. As a class, select one of the narratives for the class role-play.
5. As the narrator/s read through the narrative the students can act out the scenarios.

## TEACHER TIP

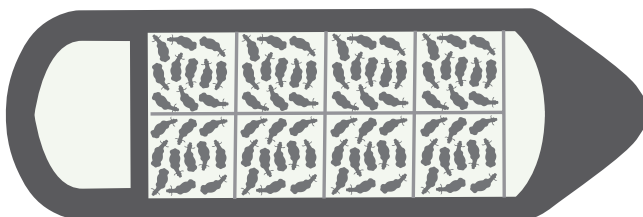
During the role-play, you may like to add some of the scenarios overleaf. These will assist in facilitating rich discussion and reflection.

### ROLE-PLAY PROMPTS

- Are you a sheep inside the pen? Do you need to lie down? Remember, if you do you will be lying in excrement. How do you feel about this?
- Are you afraid of stepping on other sheep who are already lying down and occupying lots of space?
- Designate a sheep to get sea-sick. Remind them they cannot vomit. There is no respite. How do they feel?



- Is the ship stable or rolling around? Are you feeling like you might fall?
- Get the stockperson to place a trough (glasses of water) and some feed (get creative here) on the sides of the square showing how hard it is for the ones in the middle to get to the edges for food and water.



- Have the pregnant mother give birth (perhaps use a stuffed toy to hide in beneath the student's jumper to 'birth'). Can she get to her baby to feed them? Is the baby safe? Are they likely to survive? Can the vet get to the mum and baby to check on them?



The baby is trampled, dies and the body thrown overboard. The mother then develops mastitis. How does everyone feel about what has happened?

- Designate some sheep to fall over. Can the vet get to any who have fallen and can't get up? Some of them now have a broken leg, they cannot stand again for the remainder of the voyage.
- There have been some complications with the weather. The trip has been extended. How do the sheep feel about this?
- As the ship gets closer to its destination the temperatures rise. Designate some sheep to suffer from heat stress and some to collapse. How does this affect the others?
- Are you a sheep outside the pen, observing the situation? How do you feel?