

# World Book® Online:

The trusted, student-friendly online reference tool.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

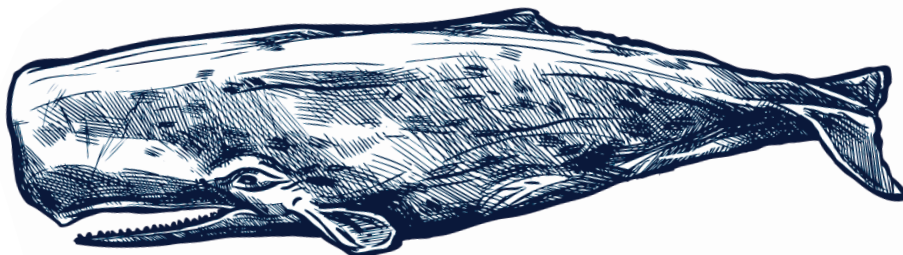
## Whales

Have you ever wondered which animal on Earth is the largest? If you guessed the blue whale, you're right! Whales are fascinating animals. Follow this webquest to learn more about these amazing creatures!

First, go to

**[www.worldbookonline.com](http://www.worldbookonline.com)**

Then, click on "Kids." If prompted, log on with your ID and Password.



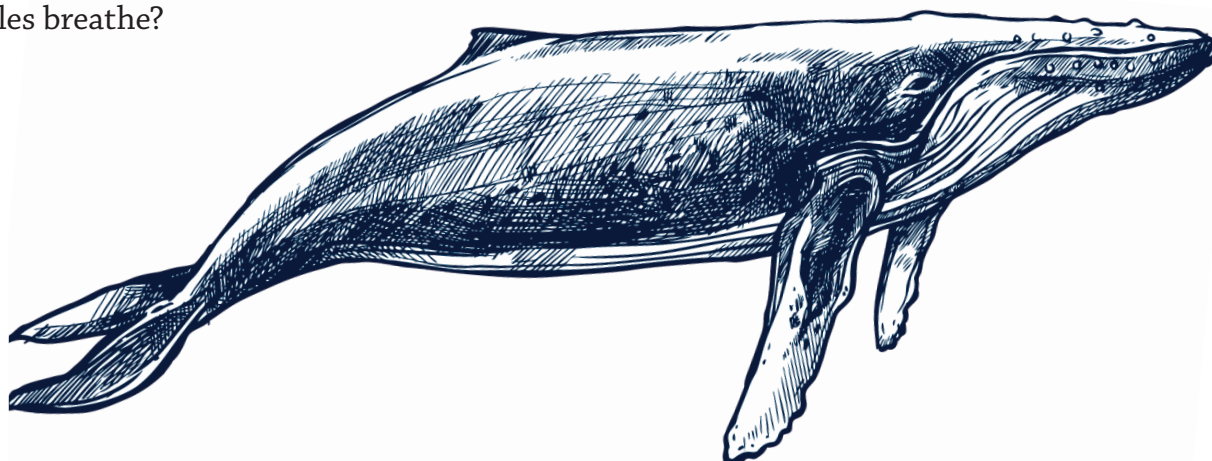
### Find It!

Find the answers below by using the "Search" tool to search key words.

Since this activity is about whales, you can start by searching the key word "Whale."

Write the answers on the lines provided or below the question.

1. A whale is a huge \_\_\_\_\_ animal.
2. True or false: A whale is a type of fish. *[If false, correct the sentence to make it true.]*
3. What is the largest whale? How big is it?
4. Beneath the skin, a whale has a layer of \_\_\_\_\_ called \_\_\_\_\_ that helps keep it warm in the cold ocean waters.
5. How do whales breathe?



6. The two main kinds of whales are the \_\_\_\_\_ whales  
and the \_\_\_\_\_ whales.
7. Baleen whales have no \_\_\_\_\_. Instead, they have hundreds of thin \_\_\_\_\_  
called \_\_\_\_\_ in the mouth.
8. True or false: Most toothed whales eat fish or squid. *[If false, correct the sentence to make it true.]*
9. True or false: Sperm whales are the largest baleen whales. *[If false, correct the sentence to make it true.]*
10. As soon as a calf is born, the mother whale gently pushes it to the \_\_\_\_\_  
to take its first \_\_\_\_\_.
11. What is beaching?
12. Whales were once killed for their \_\_\_\_\_ and their \_\_\_\_\_.

## Watch it!

Within the World Book article Whale, you will find the video “Why do whales beach themselves?”  
Watch the video and answer the following questions.

13. Do scientists know exactly why whales beach themselves?
14. What are some possible reasons for beaching?

Within the World Book article Whale, you will find the video “How do scientists rescue whales?”  
Watch the video and answer the following questions.

15. The type of whales that strand themselves on beaches is usually \_\_\_\_\_ whales.
16. Why are baleen whales difficult to rescue when they beach themselves?
17. How do scientists rescue whales that get stuck in fishing nets?

# What's the Word?

Find the 14 vocabulary words hidden within the puzzle below, then write the definition of the word on the line.

You may use context clues to determine the meaning of each word. You may also double-click on the word to access the online dictionary.

K V T H F P W A H N B E N C K F T Q M B  
G Y O E L J G K X E O D E E I Y X Q E A  
X L O W A Z I G A R F T C W L I M T T L  
R Q T B C Q R C R W Q S K Q W C Z E T E  
E K H I I T H E D A X N X N G M W Q E E  
B V E S U I X C U G W P M V A H F N N N  
B Y D A N E L O H W O L B T W L G N L I  
U H W G M K E H F L N D G X W M P I M O  
L A H V G A Q J V A S T A E F R O W Z C  
B F A P X H Z K C W C D A A A Z M J H P  
P J L M U A I F Z P K R Y I A N M C D V  
Z T E Z Z P W V B R W L P G L V R S L V  
E L A H W K D U S O L D V M E F J Y Y M  
G B U U F A Q V P C I W A F H U I A F H  
Z H X G E L F H L U R M X C T J L N G B  
Y O H H F E A S U C M V A B B X G B J I  
M J W J L C V H W A L G W V W N C N U W  
Q O N A R W H A L L U R A D L Z P X R S  
B J E N S E Q S L E E Y T O K C S N F X  
B L U Q S G M J I H R C Q F U M K B U S

BALEEN: \_\_\_\_\_

BEACHING: \_\_\_\_\_

BLOWHOLE: \_\_\_\_\_

BLUBBER: \_\_\_\_\_

BLUE: \_\_\_\_\_

BOWHEAD: \_\_\_\_\_

CALF: \_\_\_\_\_

MAMMAL: \_\_\_\_\_

NARWHAL: \_\_\_\_\_

OIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLANKTON: \_\_\_\_\_

TAILFIN: \_\_\_\_\_

TOOTHEDWHALE: \_\_\_\_\_

WHALE: \_\_\_\_\_

.....

**World Book provides many eBooks that explore different aspects of whales, including the title *Mammals and The Sea and Its Marvels*, cited below. Read more by visiting World Book's eBook collection!**

*Mammals*. Chicago: World Book: 2013. Animal Lives.

*World Book eBooks*. World Book, Inc.

Web. <<http://ebooks.worldbookonline.com>>.

*The Sea and Its Marvels*. World Book: 2014. A Look At.

*World Book eBooks*. World Book, Inc.

Web. <<http://ebooks.worldbookonline.com>>.



# Teacher page

## Answers:

1. A whale is a huge **sea** animal.
2. False: A whale is a type of *mammal*.
3. The blue whale is the largest whale. It grows up to 100 feet (30 meters) long and can weigh more than 150 tons (135 metric tons).
4. Beneath the skin, a whale has a layer of **fat** called **blubber** that helps keep it warm in the cold ocean waters.
5. Whales breathe through nostrils called blowholes at the top of the head.
6. The two main kinds of whales are the **baleen** whales and the **toothed** whales.
7. Baleen whales have no **teeth**. Instead, they have hundreds of thin **plates** called **baleen** in the mouth.
8. True
9. False: Sperm whales are the largest *toothed* whales.
10. As soon as a calf is born, the mother whale gently pushes it to the **surface** to take its first **breath**.
11. Beaching is when a whale swims onto shore. [Out of water, the whales quickly get too hot and die.]
12. Whales were once killed for their **meat** and their **oil**.
13. Scientists do not know why whales come ashore.
14. The whale's sonar (sound pulse system) may be confused –possibly caused by illness. Changes in the earth's magnetism may have an influence on the whale's ability to follow their routes. Another theory is that a lead animal is ill and makes a bad choice, and the others follow.
15. The type of whales that strand themselves on beaches is usually **toothed** whales.
16. Baleen whales are difficult to rescue when they beach themselves because of their size; they are so large.
17. They cut the netting away from the entangled whale.

## What's the Word?

K V **T** H **F** P W A H **N** **B** E N C K F T Q M **B**  
G Y **O** E **L** J G K X **E** **O** D E E I Y X Q E **A**  
X L **O** W **A** Z I G **A** R F **T** C W L I M T T **L**  
**R** Q **T** B **C** Q R **C** R W Q S **K** Q W C Z E T **E**  
**E** K **H** I I T **H** E D A X N X **N** G M W Q E **E**  
**B** V **E** S U **I** X C U G W P M V **A** H F N N **N**  
**B** Y **D** A **N** E **L** **O** **H** **W** **O** **L** **B** T W **L** G N **L** I  
**U** H **W** **G** M K E H F L N D G X W M **P** **I** M O  
**L** A **H** V G A Q J V A S **T** A E F R **O** W Z C  
**B** F **A** P X H Z K C W C D **A** A A Z M J H P  
P J **L** M U A I F Z P K R Y **I** A N M C D V  
Z T **E** Z Z P W V B R W L P G **L** V R S L V  
**E** **L** **A** **H** **W** **K** **D** U S O L D V **M** **E** **F** J Y Y M  
G B U U F **A** Q V P C I W **A** F H **U** **I** A F H  
Z H X G **E** L F H L U R **M** X C T J **L** **N** G B  
Y O H **H** F E A S U C **M** V A B B X G **B** J I  
M J **W** J L C V H W **A** L G W V W N C N U W  
Q **O** **N** **A** **R** **W** **H** **A** **L** L U R A D L Z P X R S  
**B** J E N S E Q S L E E Y T O K C S N F X  
B L U Q S G M J I H R C Q F U M K B U S

**BALEEN:** Thin plates growing downward from the upper jaws of certain whales

**BEACHING:** When whales swim onto shore

**BLOWHOLE:** Nostrils on top of the whale's head through which it breathes

**BLUBBER:** A layer of fat that helps keep the whale warm in cold ocean waters

**BLUE:** The largest whale

**BOWHEAD:** A type of baleen whale with a thick body, a huge head, and an arched mouth

**CALF:** A baby whale

**MAMMAL:** Animals that feed their young with their mother's milk

**NARWHAL:** The males of this type of whale have a tusk sticking out of its upper jaw

**OIL:** Whales were hunted for this, used as a fuel for lamps

**PLANKTON:** Tiny creatures that make up part of a baleen whales diet

**TAILFIN:** A whale moves this up and down to swim

**TOOTHEDWHALE:** Whales that have teeth

**WHALE:** Huge sea animal that looks a lot like a fish