

Dolphin Comprehension

Amazing Fact

Dolphins have names for each other. Research has shown that dolphins will respond to the series of whistles used by other dolphins as their 'name'.

Challenge

Read this short text then answer the questions below:

All About Dolphins

Dolphins are mammals that live in the sea. This means they give birth to live young and don't lay eggs. They travel in groups, called pods, of between two and 40 dolphins. As they are such social animals, they do most things together. For example, in their pods, they hunt, feed and defend themselves against enemies.

Friendly Animals

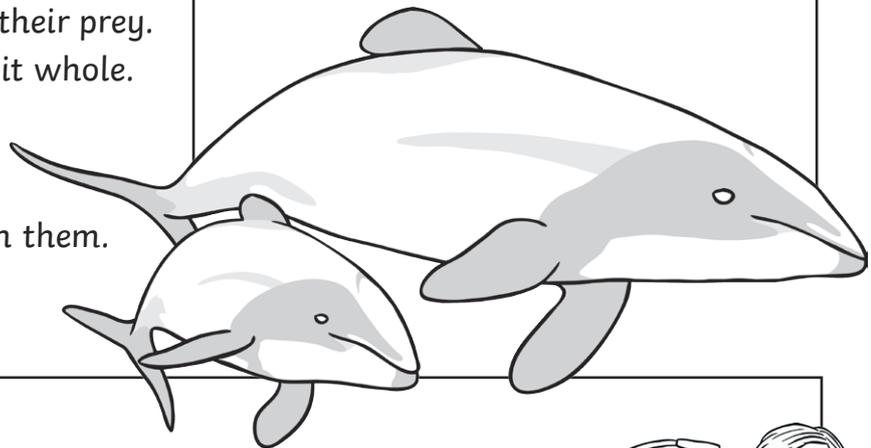
They are able to communicate with one another, using a wide range of different sounds. They make noises for making other dolphins aware of any danger, when hunting for food and when looking for one another.

Dolphins are predators which means they eat other animals. They feed on herring, Atlantic mackerel, cod, octopus, squid and shrimp. They have small teeth but only use these for holding onto their prey. They don't chew their food but swallow it whole.

Dolphins will circle around weaker members of the pod to protect them and attack anything that might threaten them. They can even kill sharks!

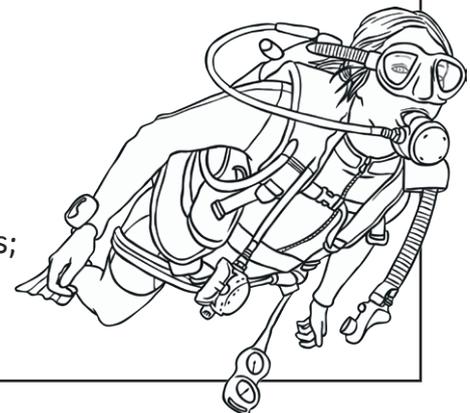
Did You Know...?

Dolphins have a larger brain than humans! This means their senses are highly developed and they are very intelligent. They have excellent hearing which is at least 10 times better than an adult human's hearing.



You could also try to find out:

- if you can hear a clip of any dolphin names in use;
- how many other 'words' dolphins are thought to use;
- if there have been any humans able to understand dolphins;
- which animals are thought to be the most intelligent.



Dolphin Comprehension Questions

1. Dolphins are mammals. What does this mean? Tick one.

- they live in the sea
- they don't lay eggs
- they don't hunt

2. What is a pod? Tick one.

- a group of sharks
- a group of fish
- a group of dolphins

3. Why do dolphins make different noises?

4. Which sense do dolphins have, which is 10 times better than a human's? Tick one.

- sight
- taste
- hearing

5. What does the word 'predator' mean? Tick one.

- That dolphins eat other dolphins.
- That dolphins eat plants.
- That dolphins eat other animals.

6. How do dolphins protect weaker dolphins in their pod? Tick one.

- They stop them swimming.
- They leave them behind.
- They circle around them.

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