

Animals that live in the water

Dolphin

Dolphins (DAHL fihnz) are small toothed whales that live in the ocean. They are mammals, not fish. A mammal is an animal whose young feed on its mother's milk. Dolphins also breathe with lungs, not gills like fish. They must come to the surface of the water to breathe. Dolphins have bodies well suited for living in water. They have long narrow bodies, flippers and fins on their backs.



Dolphins are social animals. They live together in groups. They also "talk" to each other using many different sounds. Dolphins are very smart animals. Many have been trained by humans to do different jobs and to entertain people. Dolphins mainly eat fish and squid.

Think and Learn

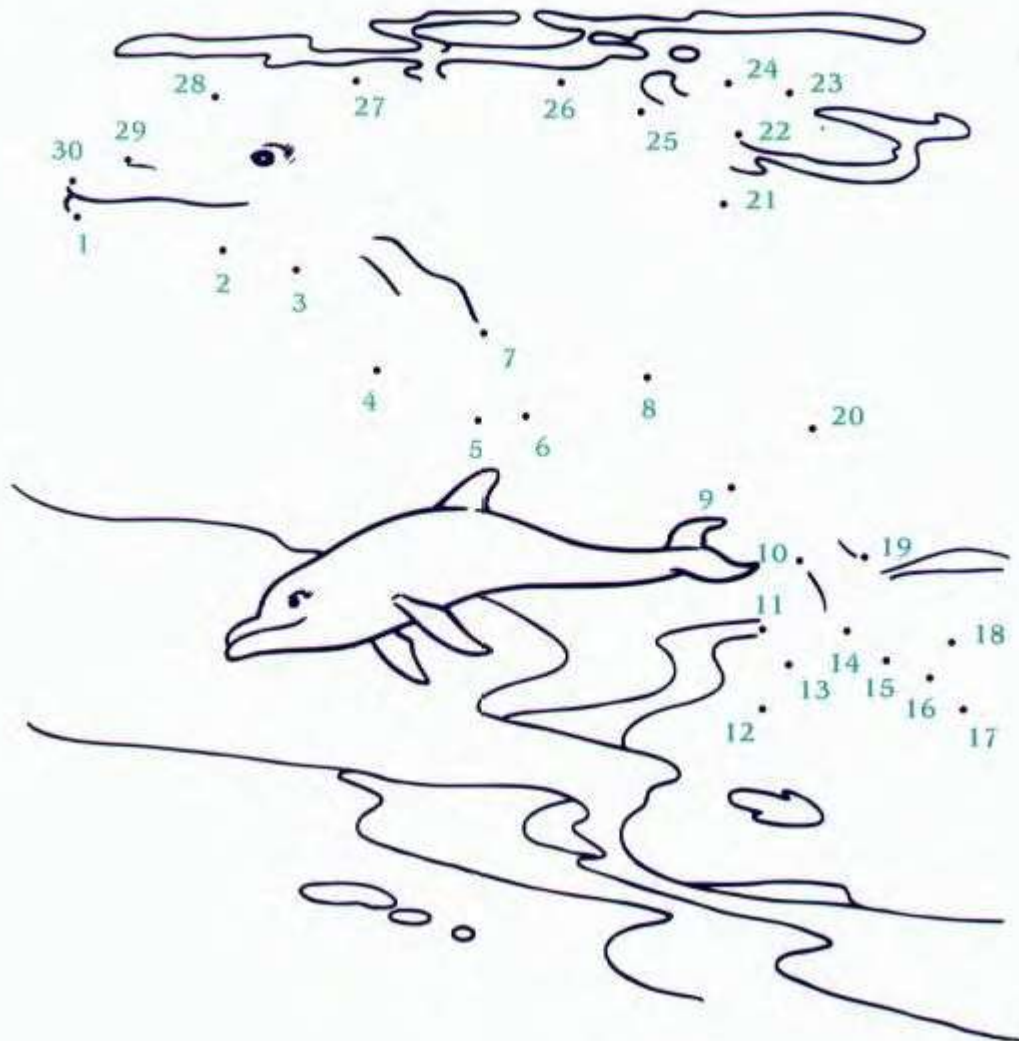
1. Dolphins are _____ , not fish.
2. Dolphins breathe with _____.
3. How are dolphin bodies suited for living in water?

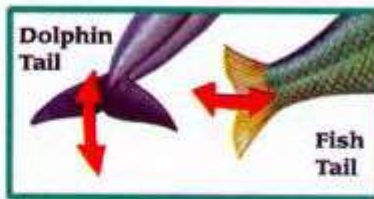
4. What do dolphins eat? _____



Dot-to-Dot

Connect the dots. Color the picture.

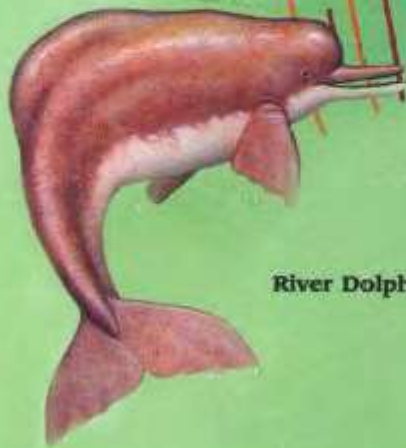




A dolphin is a type of toothed whale. There are more than 30 different kinds of dolphins. Most kinds live in the ocean, but some live in freshwater rivers and lakes in South America and Asia. Although dolphins live in water, they are mammals, not fish. Dolphins flap their tails up and down when they swim. Most fish move their tails from side to side. Dolphins also must come to the surface of the water to breathe air.



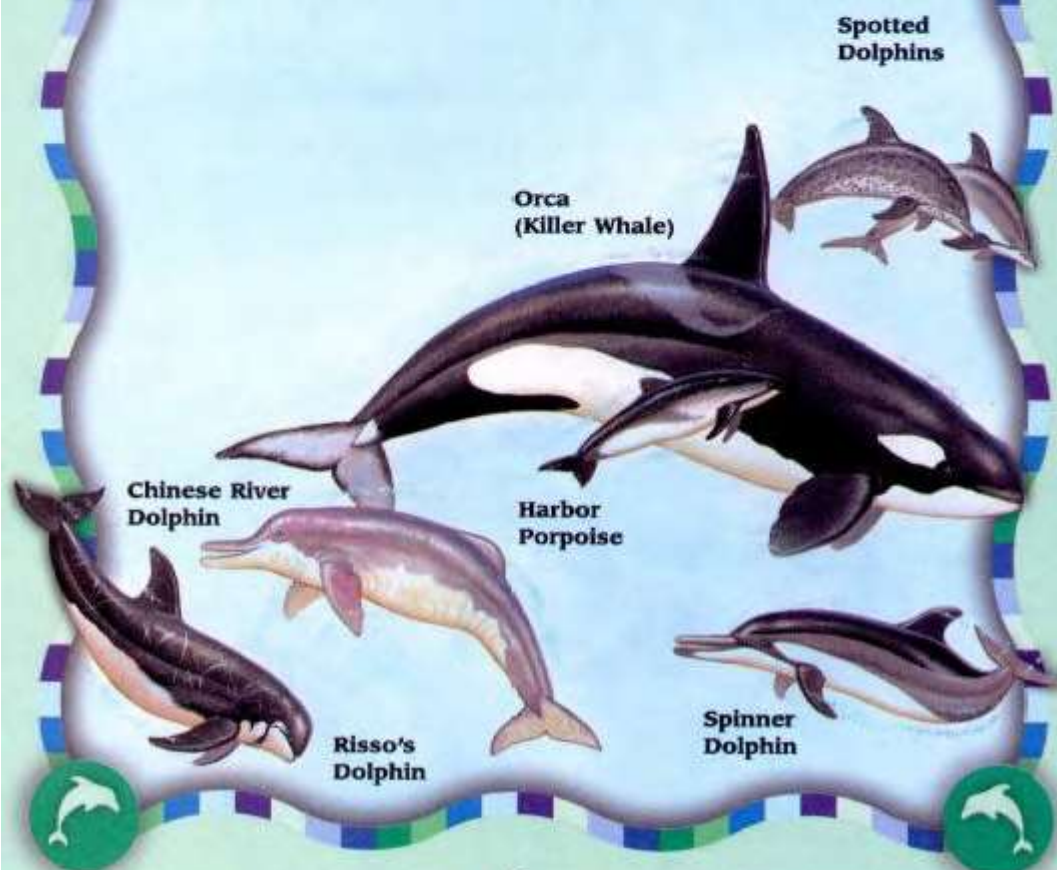
**Bottlenose
Dolphins**



River Dolphin

Dolphins probably have the best hearing of all animals. They use their sense of hearing to find their way, hunt for food and be aware of danger. Dolphins send out a series of clicking sounds. The sounds travel fast through the water. When the sounds strike an object, such as a fish or a rock, they bounce back as an echo. Dolphins can tell from the echoes the size, shape, speed and location of the object.

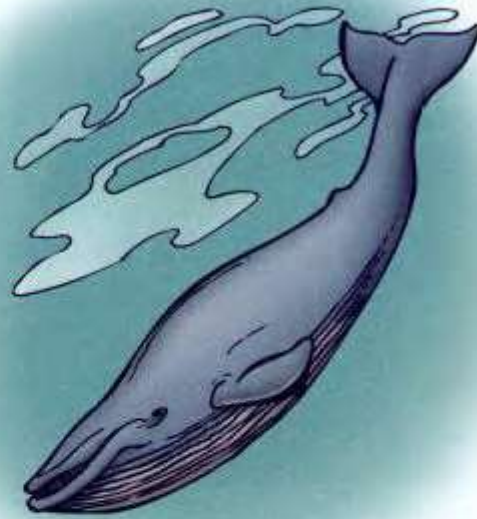
Dolphins face many dangers throughout the world. Some are accidentally caught in nets set by fishermen searching for tuna and other fish. Other dolphins are hunted as food. In the past 30 years, efforts have increased to protect dolphins and their habitats.





Whale

Whales are large mammals that live in the ocean. Mammals are animals whose young feed on their mother's milk. Although whales look like fish, they are very different. Whales have lungs and must come to the water's surface to breathe. Whales also have tails that move up and down, not back and forth.



Some whales have teeth. These whales usually eat fish and other animals. Other whales do not have teeth. These whales feed on tiny plants and animals that float in the water. Whales are social animals that live in groups. Whales "talk" to each other by making many different sounds. Whales have a keen sense of hearing and can hear sounds from far away.

Think and Learn

1. Whales are _____ that live in the ocean.
2. How are whales different from fish? _____

3. What do whales without teeth eat? _____

4. Whales have a keen sense of _____.

Whales are found in every ocean, but there are fewer whales now because of whaling. Not long ago, so many whales were killed each year that some kinds of whales almost died out. Today, laws protect whales. Most countries have banned whaling. The whale population is growing, but these animals still need people's help to fully recover from years of being overhunted.

