

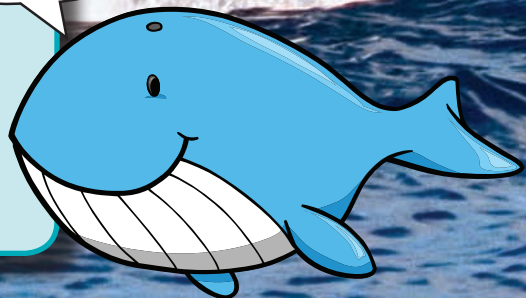
Humpback Whales

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Splash! The humpback whale breaches—or leaps up—and lands in a spray of water. It's an amazing sight!

- A humpback whale doesn't really have a hump. But it looks like it has a hump when it arches its back to dive. That's how the humpback whale got its name.
- Humpback whales live in oceans all over the world. They live near the North and South Poles during the summer. Then, they travel to warmer waters near the Equator during the winter.
- Male humpback whales are famous for their songs. The songs can last up to 20 minutes before they repeat them.

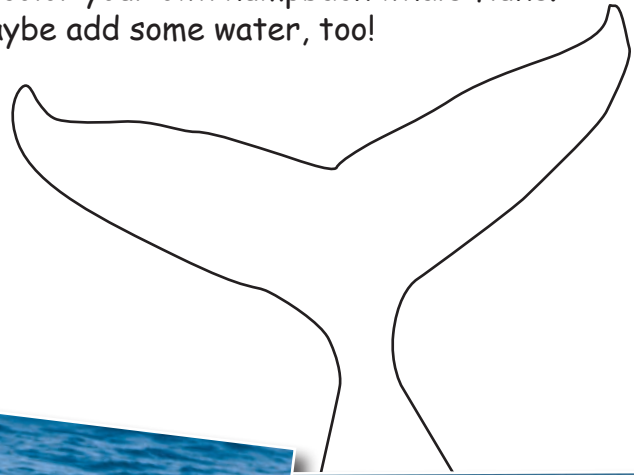
I've got
to SING!



It's a Fluke!

Whale tails are called flukes. Every humpback whale has a pattern of black and white markings on the underside of its fluke. The pattern is like a fingerprint—no two whales have exactly the same pattern!

Take a look at the flukes below. Then use crayons to color your own humpback whale fluke. Maybe add some water, too!



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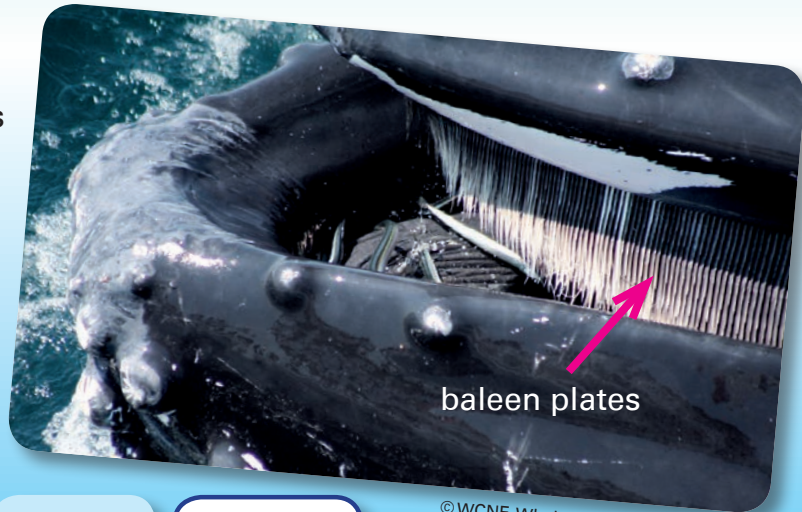


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Food Patterns

Humpback whales eat plankton (tiny sea animals and plants), krill (tiny shrimp-like fish), and fish. They sift their food from the water with baleen plates. Baleen plates are like combs in their mouths. When the whales take a big gulp of water, the baleen plates trap the food.

Help the humpback whale pick what to eat by drawing what comes next in the pattern.



© WCNE-Whale Center of New England



plankton



fish



krill



plankton



fish



fish



fish



krill



fish



fish



krill



Find the Humpback Whale Words!

baleen spyhop
fluke fish
krill flippers
plankton blowholes
breach songs

g k r i l l s t u w k e l a d i
m c j x y y x y f i s h f k s m
b f l i p p e r s r h e w p o k
t a p f a s r g a s i k q h n g
o y f d l l b a l e e n b v g p
r i m h b s p g h h m i l a s p
b f x l r b l f u p l i o o q a
c l h t e s a z b f h t w l o y
x u b r a m n c c k o e h q j b
s k i s c e k j u m c n o l d s
x e a g h y t c f a u s l d w s
b z w a l x o t d m y m e h l u
s p y h o p n y o u d p s o v l

Sometimes humpback whales **spyhop**. This is when a whale pokes its head above the water and stays up like that for a bit.



This whale is spyhopping.



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A Whale of an Acrostic Poem

© IFAW/S. Cook

An acrostic poem is a poem in which the first letters of the lines spell a word. Read the poem for the word *humpback*. Then write your own acrostic poem for *whale*. For each letter, write one or more words about humpback whales.

Huge whale

Under the sea

Moving powerfully

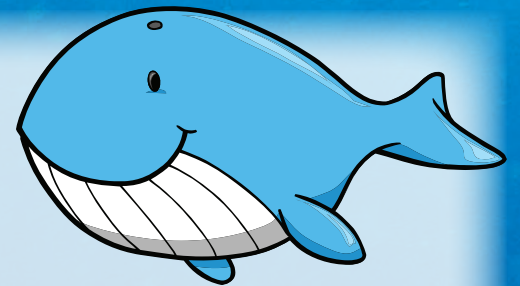
Pushes its body up to the surface

Breaches

And dives

Combs the water for

Krill



W _____

H _____

A _____

L _____

E _____

