

KILLER WHALES



WOLVES OF THE SEA



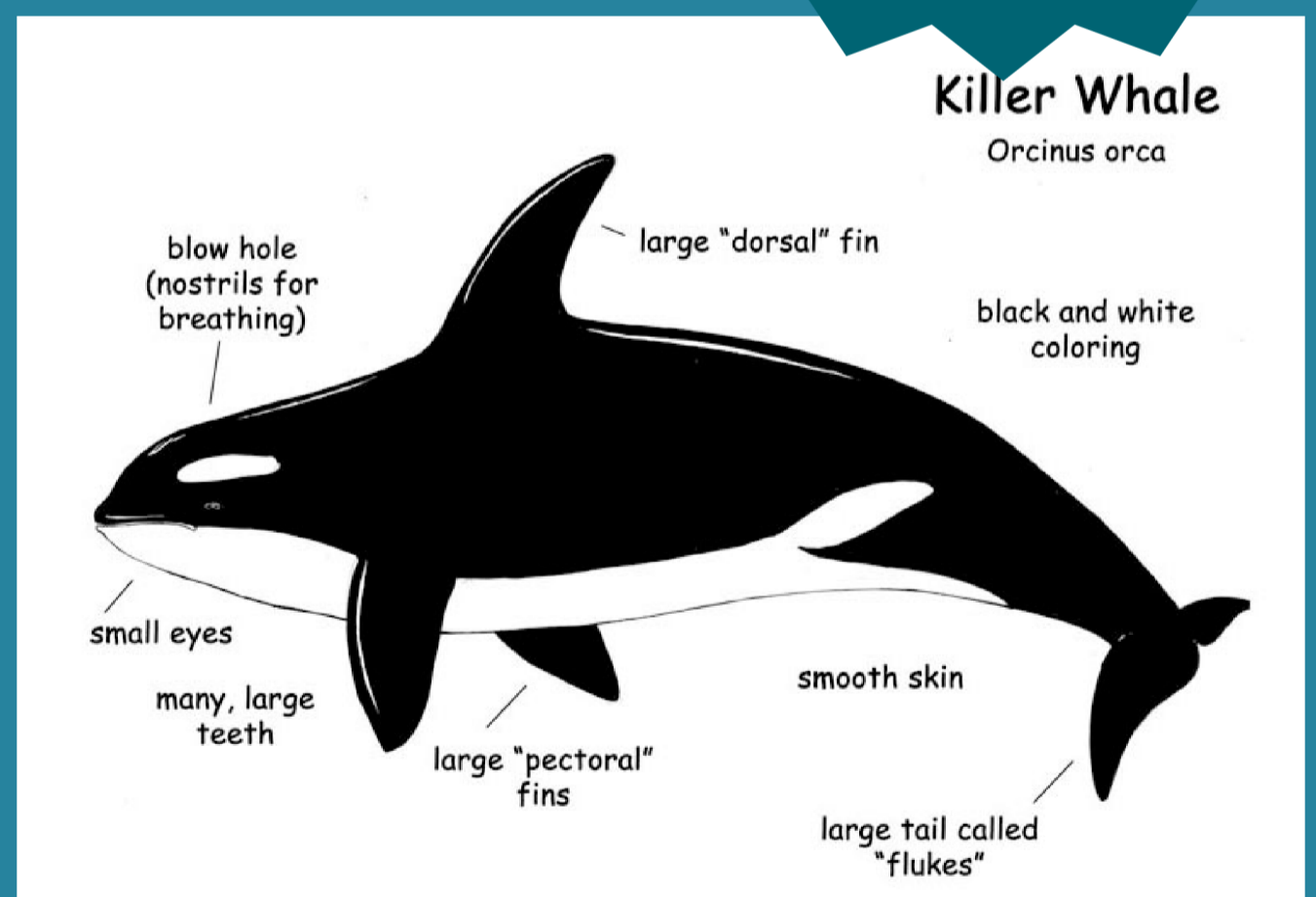
Killer whales, also known as orcas, are the largest member of the dolphin family. They are known for their intelligence and powerful hunting skills.

Orcas can be found in oceans all over the world, but they are most commonly seen in the colder waters of the **ARCTIC** and **ANTARCTIC**.

Did you know?

Despite their size, they are excellent swimmers and can reach speeds of over 35 miles per hour!

Orcas have a unique and recognizable appearance, with a black and white color pattern and a tall dorsal fin. They can grow up to 30 feet long and weigh over **10,000** pounds!



We hunt and eat a variety of prey, including seals, sea lions, fish, and even whales!

Orcas are **APEX PREDATORS**, meaning they are at the top of the food chain. They hunt in groups, using their intelligence and cooperation to take down even the largest prey.



Orcas have a lifespan of 50 to 80 years.

They live in both saltwater and freshwater environments

How do they communicate?

Orcas have a diverse range of **VOCALISATIONS** including clicks and whistles. They use these vocalizations to communicate with each other.

What makes them special?



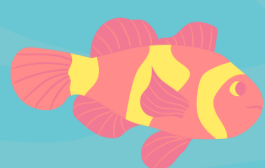
THEY HAVE A UNIQUE SYSTEM OF ECHOLLOCATION, WHICH THEY USE TO LOCATE PREY.



THEY HAVE A COMPLEX SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR STRONG FAMILY BONDS.

They are known to attack great white sharks like me!

Orcas have been observed using tools, such as using seaweed to corral fish and are protected under the Endangered Species Act in some countries.



COMPREHENSION

QUESTIONS

Level

1

1. What is another name for killer whales?
2. In which part of the world are killer whales usually seen?
3. What makes killer whales look different from other animals?
4. How big can killer whales grow?

Level

2

1. How do killer whales hunt their prey?
2. What makes killer whales at the top of the food chain?
3. What do killer whales eat?
4. What helps killer whales when hunting in groups?

Level

3

1. What is the significance of the tall dorsal fin in killer whales?
2. How do killer whales communicate with each other?
3. How does the environment of killer whales impact their hunting behavior?
4. What makes the intelligence of killer whales unique among marine mammals?

Level

4

1. How do killer whales use echolocation to locate prey?
2. How long do killer whales typically live?
3. What is the social structure of killer whale populations?
4. What is the role of vocalizations in the communication of killer whales?

