



Dolphins - Smart Ocean Friends

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

Dolphins are some of the **smartest** animals in the ocean. They are not fish — they are **mammals** like us! Dolphins breathe air through a blowhole on top of their heads. They must come up to the surface to breathe. Baby dolphins, called **calves**, drink milk from their mothers.

Dolphins live in groups called **pods**. A pod can have 10 to 30 dolphins. They work together to find food and stay safe from **predators** like sharks. Dolphins are very **social** animals. They play together and even take care of sick pod members.

Dolphins talk to each other using **clicks** and whistles. Each dolphin has its own special whistle, like a name. They use sound to find fish in dark water. This is called **echolocation**. The sound bounces off objects and tells the dolphin where things are.

Dolphins are amazing **swimmers**. They can swim up to 35 kilometers per hour and are very **agile** — they change direction quickly. They jump out of the water and love to ride waves near boats.

Dolphins have a special **bond** with humans. They have rescued people lost in the ocean. Scientists study dolphins to learn about **intelligence** — dolphins can solve problems and recognize themselves in a mirror. We must keep the ocean clean for dolphins to **thrive**.

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. mammals ____ | a. enjoying the company of others |
| 2. calves ____ | b. a close connection between people or animals |
| 3. pods ____ | c. baby dolphins |
| 4. predators ____ | d. the ability to learn and solve problems |
| 5. social ____ | e. to grow strong and healthy |
| 6. echolocation ____ | f. using sound waves to find objects |
| 7. agile ____ | g. able to move quickly and easily |
| 8. bond ____ | h. warm-blooded animals that breathe air and feed milk to young |
| 9. intelligence ____ | i. groups of dolphins that live together |
| 10. thrive ____ | j. animals that hunt and eat other animals |

B. True or False

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Dolphins are a type of fish. _____ | 2. Dolphins breathe through a blowhole. _____ | 3. Baby dolphins are called calves. _____ |
| 4. A pod can have 10 to 30 dolphins. _____ | 5. Dolphins always live alone. _____ | 6. Echolocation uses light to find things. _____ |
| 7. Dolphins can swim up to 35 km per hour. _____ | 8. Dolphins are very agile swimmers. _____ | 9. Dolphins have rescued humans in the ocean. _____ |
| 10. Dolphins can recognize themselves in a mirror. _____ | | |

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: mammals, calves, pods, echolocation, agile, bond, intelligence, thrive

1. Dolphins are _____, not fish.
2. Baby dolphins are called _____.
3. Dolphins live in groups called _____.
4. Dolphins use _____ to find fish in dark water.
5. Scientists study dolphins to learn about their _____.



D. Comprehension Questions

1. How do dolphins breathe?
2. What is a pod?
3. How do dolphins use echolocation?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Would you like to swim with dolphins? Why or why not?

Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-h, 2-c, 3-i, 4-j, 5-a, 6-f, 7-g, 8-b, 9-d, 10-e

B. True/False: 1-F, 2-T, 3-T, 4-T, 5-F, 6-F, 7-T, 8-T, 9-T, 10-T

C. Fill Blanks: 1-mammals, 2-calves, 3-pods, 4-echolocation, 5-intelligence

D. Comprehension:

1. Through a blowhole on top of their heads
2. A group of 10 to 30 dolphins that live together
3. They send out clicks that bounce off objects to find where things are