



Whales — Giants of the Ocean

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

Far out in the **sea** lives one of the biggest **animals** on Earth — the whale. A whale looks a little like a giant **fish**, but it is not a **fish** at all. A whale is a **big** animal that must swim up to the top of the water to get air.

Whales **live** in every ocean around the world. Some whales are small, but others are so **big** that they are bigger than a school bus. The blue whale is the biggest **animal** that has ever **lived** on our planet, even bigger than the biggest dinosaur.

A whale needs a lot of **food** every day. Many whales eat tiny **sea** animals called krill. A big whale can eat thousands and thousands of krill in just one day! To find **food**, a whale will dive down **deep** into the dark water.

Whales do not talk like people, but they can **sing**. A whale song can travel a very long way under the water. Other whales far away can hear the song and know where their friends are.

A **baby** whale is called a calf. A mother whale takes good care of her calf and teaches it how to swim and dive. Whales often travel together in a **group** called a pod. Living in a group keeps the whales safe.

A. Vocabulary

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|----------------|---|
| 1. sea ____ | a. an animal that lives in water and swims |
| 2. big ____ | b. going far down |
| 3. animal ____ | c. a very young animal or person |
| 4. fish ____ | d. large in size |
| 5. live ____ | e. a number of people or animals together |
| 6. food ____ | f. to make your home somewhere |
| 7. deep ____ | g. what people and animals eat to live and grow |
| 8. sing ____ | h. to make music with your voice |
| 9. baby ____ | i. a large area of salt water |
| 10. group ____ | j. a living thing that can move; not a plant |



B. True or False

1. A whale is a fish. ____
2. A whale must come up to the top of the water to get air. ____
3. The blue whale is the biggest animal that has ever lived. ____
4. Whales only live in one small part of the ocean. ____
5. Many whales eat tiny sea animals called krill. ____
6. Whales dive deep into the water to find food. ____
7. Whales cannot make any sounds at all. ____
8. A baby whale is called a calf. ____
9. Whales often travel together in a group called a pod. ____



C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: deep, food, sing, group, live

1. A whale must swim up for air, so it does not _____ under the water all the time.

2. A big whale can eat a lot of _____ every day, like tiny krill.
3. A whale will dive down _____ into the dark water to find food.
4. Whales cannot talk, but they can _____ songs to their friends.
5. A whale calf travels with its mother in a _____ called a pod.

D. Comprehension Questions

1. Why is a whale not a fish, even though it looks a little like one?
2. What is the biggest animal that has ever lived on Earth?
3. What do many whales eat, and how do they find it?
4. How do whales use songs?
5. What is a baby whale called, and who takes care of it?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever seen a whale, in real life or in a picture? What did you think?
2. Why do you think whales travel together in a group instead of alone?
3. If you could ask a whale one question, what would you ask?



Answer Key

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

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

C. Fill Blanks: 1-live, 2-food, 3-deep, 4-sing, 5-group

D. Comprehension:

1. A whale is not a fish because it must swim up to the top of the water to breathe air, and it feeds its babies with milk.
2. The blue whale is the biggest animal that has ever lived on Earth, even bigger than the biggest dinosaur.
3. Many whales eat tiny sea animals called krill, and they dive down deep into the water to find them.
4. Whales sing songs that can travel a long way under the water, so other whales far away can hear them and know where their friends are.
5. A baby whale is called a calf, and its mother takes good care of it and teaches it how to swim and dive.