

Whales

Reports tell you true information (facts) about something. All these are facts:

Whales live in seas and oceans.
Whales are very big.
Whales can swim well.

Before you read

- Can you think of any other animals which live in the sea?
- Could we live in the sea?

Read this report

WHALES

Whales live in seas and oceans, but they need air to breathe. Whales can hold their breath for an hour or more under water, but then they come up to the top of the sea to breathe. They have flippers to help them swim. Most whales eat sea plants called plankton. You cannot see plankton because they are very small.

The blue whale is the largest animal in the world. It can be 30 metres long. That is about as long as two buses. It can weigh as much as 100 tons. That is about the weight of 20 elephants!

Whales can talk to each other by making noises under water. Some whales can communicate with each other even when they are over 100 kilometres apart.

Some whales are hunted and killed, but most countries in the world now try to protect whales.

Re-read the report

Answer the following questions.

1. Where do whales live? _____

2. For how long can whales hold their breath? _____

3. Which is the largest animal in the world? _____

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4. What do most whales eat? _____

5. What do whales have to help them to swim? _____

6. Whales use their flippers to swim around. Think of two ways we use our legs to move around. Write them here.

7. Which fact tells you that the blue whale is heavy? _____

8. Why do you think we should protect whales? _____

9. This report contains many facts, such as **Whales live in seas and oceans.** Can you pick out two other facts about whales?

