

Marine Mammals Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Marine Mammals trivia dives into the remarkable adaptations that let whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions, and other species thrive in the water while still breathing air and caring for their young on the surface. From record-breaking deep dives to complex communication and conservation milestones, this topic offers a family-friendly mix of fun facts, natural history, and tougher questions for curious ocean fans.

HARD MARINE MAMMALS TRIVIA

1. Which body of water is the vaquita restricted to, making its range exceptionally narrow among marine mammals?

Answer: The vaquita lives only in the northern Gulf of California.

2. What is the name of the Yangtze River dolphin that was declared functionally extinct in the 2000s?

Answer: The baiji was declared functionally extinct in the 2000s.

3. The river dolphin living in Pakistan's river system is associated with which river?

Answer: It lives in the Indus River system of Pakistan.

4. Which right whale is identified here as one of the most endangered large whale species?

Answer: The North Atlantic right whale.

5. Among Antarctic waters, which seal is noted as being one of the most abundant large mammals?

Answer: Crabeater seals.

6. Which explorer's surname appears on the sea that serves as a major range for several marine mammal populations?

Answer: Vitus Bering.

7. The endangered southern resident killer whales have a core habitat in which inland sea?

Answer: The Salish Sea.

8. Which extinct marine mammal was hunted to extinction in the 18th century?

Answer: Steller's sea cow.

9. What whale is specifically noted here for living more than 100 years?

Answer: Bowhead whales.

10. Which whales make a migration between Arctic feeding grounds and breeding lagoons off Mexico?

Answer: Gray whales.

11. Which Antarctic seal can keep breathing access open in sea ice by using its teeth?

Answer: Weddell seals.

12. For polar bears in the Arctic, which seal is identified as a key prey species?

Answer: Ringed seals.

13. Which fur seal breeds mainly on islands off Mexico?

Answer: The Guadalupe fur seal.

14. Which seal is singled out as one of the most endangered seal species in the United States?

Answer: The Hawaiian monk seal.

FUNNY MARINE MAMMALS TRIVIA

1. Which marine mammal sometimes sleeps like it's half on night watch, keeping one eye open?

Answer: Dolphins sometimes sleep with one eye open.

2. Who are the dockside noisemakers most likely to sound like they're heckling the marina with loud barks?

Answer: Sea lions often bark loudly on docks and beaches.

3. True or false: A narwhal's tusk is really an elongated tooth.?

Answer: True

4. Which animal's adult males are famous for a big inflatable nose that inspired the animal's name?

Answer: Elephant seals.

5. If the ocean held a weird little bell concert, which marine mammals could contribute by inflating throat air sacs?

Answer: Walruses.

6. Which underwater grazer has a downturned snout that works a bit like a lawn mower for seagrass?

Answer: A dugong.

7. Which animals use sensitive whiskers to help locate clams on the seafloor?

Answer: Walruses.

8. Who's been spotted treating the ocean like recess, playing with seaweed and bubbles?

Answer: Dolphins.

9. Which marine mammals sometimes make waves on purpose to wash seals off ice floes?

Answer: Orcas.

10. Which marine mammal is more likely to be the quiet wallflower near boats rather than the flashy show-off?

Answer: Harbor porpoises.

11. If an otter had a treasured kitchen gadget tucked under its forearm, what would it most likely be?

Answer: A favorite rock.

12. Which marine mammal has the densest fur of any animal, turning fluff into a serious engineering project?

Answer: Sea otters.

13. Whose nostrils can close underwater while cruising just below the surface nice and slowly?

Answer: Manatees'.

FUN MARINE MAMMALS TRIVIA

1. Whose recordings of humpback whale songs helped make whales a pop-culture fascination?

Answer: Roger Payne

2. Which writer brought the sea to many readers in the 1951 book "The Sea Around Us"?

Answer: Rachel Carson

3. In what year did the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act become law?

Answer: 1972

4. One year after 1972, another major U.S. wildlife law arrived. What year did the Endangered Species Act become law?

Answer: 1973

5. Which organization was established in 1946 to deal with whaling issues internationally?

Answer: International Whaling Commission

6. Back in 1874, who published an important book on marine mammals?

Answer: Charles Melville Scammon

7. What was the name of the orca famous for cooperating with whalers near Eden, Australia?

Answer: Old Tom

8. The orca Kandu 5 died after a clash at SeaWorld San Diego in what year?

Answer: 1986

9. Which researcher is especially associated with the orcas of the Salish Sea?

Answer: Ken Balcomb

10. Which New Zealand scientist is well known for her work on orcas?

Answer: Ingrid Visser

11. If you wanted a pioneer in dolphin hearing and physiology research, whose lab notes would you hope to borrow?

Answer: Sam Ridgway

12. Which veterinarian is closely associated with research on stranded marine mammals?

Answer: Frances Gulland

13. Who founded the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in 1977?

Answer: Paul Watson

MARINE MAMMALS FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Where did Winter the dolphin live in Florida?

Answer: Clearwater Marine Aquarium

2. Which 2011 movie was inspired by Winter the dolphin?

Answer: Dolphin Tale

3. What is the title of the 1993 movie about a captive orca?

Answer: Free Willy

4. The film "Whale Rider" takes place in which country?

Answer: New Zealand

5. On the TV series, what is the dolphin's name in "Flipper"?

Answer: Flipper

6. Which ocean explorer helped make TV audiences excited about underwater filming of dolphins and whales?

Answer: Jacques Cousteau

7. If you're in California and want a famous place to watch whales from shore or by boat, where might you go?

Answer: Monterey Bay

8. Which San Diego spot is especially well known for sea lions?

Answer: La Jolla Cove

9. What region is famous for seasonal gray whale watching?

Answer: Baja California

10. Which lagoon in Baja California is known for close encounters with gray whales?

Answer: Laguna San Ignacio

11. What 2012 movie tells a story about trapped gray whales in Alaska?

Answer: Big Miracle

12. Which animal is commonly seen performing in zoo and aquarium shows?

Answer: California sea lion

EASY MARINE MAMMALS TRIVIA

1. What is a social group of dolphins commonly called?

Answer: A pod

2. What is the name for the elongated snout of many dolphins?

Answer: The rostrum

3. True or false: Whales and seals are fish.?

Answer: False

4. What is the thick insulating fat layer found on many marine mammals called?

Answer: Blubber

5. Which animal often floats on its back while resting?

Answer: Sea otters

6. What nickname is often given to manatees?

Answer: Sea cows

7. The TV character Flipper is most associated with which kind of dolphin?

Answer: The bottlenose dolphin

8. Which large Arctic animal counts as a marine mammal because it depends heavily on sea ice and the ocean?

Answer: Polar bears

9. What do seals use to help detect movement in the water?

Answer: Their whiskers

10. Walruses are especially famous for their long what?

Answer: Tusks

11. Which whales are known for complex songs?

Answer: Humpback whales

12. What is another common name for the killer whale?

Answer: Orca

13. Which marine mammal can rotate its hind flippers forward to walk on land?

Answer: Sea lions

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/marine-mammals>