



Whale Vocabulary

Mammals

A vertebrate animal that is warm-blooded, has hair, drinks mother's milk, bears live babies, and breathes air.

Migration

The periodic mass movement of animal populations to and from an area.

Baleen

Parallel plates, made of keratin, that grow from the upper jaw of a baleen whale for filtering food from the water.

Echolocate

To locate objects by emitting sound waves and interpreting the resulting echo.

Pod

A social group of whales.

Blowhole

The nostril(s) at the top of the head in whales, dolphins, and porpoises through which they breathe.

Flukes

The horizontal lobes of the tail of a whale, dolphin or porpoise, made of connective tissue (not bone)

Blubber

A layer of fat cells and fibrous connective tissue, between the skin and the muscle of most marine mammals.