

# Orca Whales



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## Standards:

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.5](#)

Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.7](#)

Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

Uncommon terms are underlined and can be found on page 11 in the glossary.

## What is an Orca Whale?

An orca whale is a mammal. That means it has live babies and not eggs like fish.



## Mother Orcas

Mother orcas are pregnant for 17 months and stay with them for life.



Other adolescence female orcas will help raise baby orcas.

# Family Structure

Orcas live in large families called pods.

## Orcas Around Us

In the Northwest there are 3 major pods that are named J, K, L. Each pod has a different characteristics and different number of whales.

Pod	Number of Whales
J	25
K	19
L	36

This is an example of a pod of orca whales:



How many orca whales do you see in this picture?

# Habitat

There are two different types of orcas. The resident orcas live from the ocean off the coast of Washington and Canada while the transient orcas live from Mexico to the Bearing Sea.



Purple= Resident Orcas  
Red=Transient Orcas



# Orca Diet

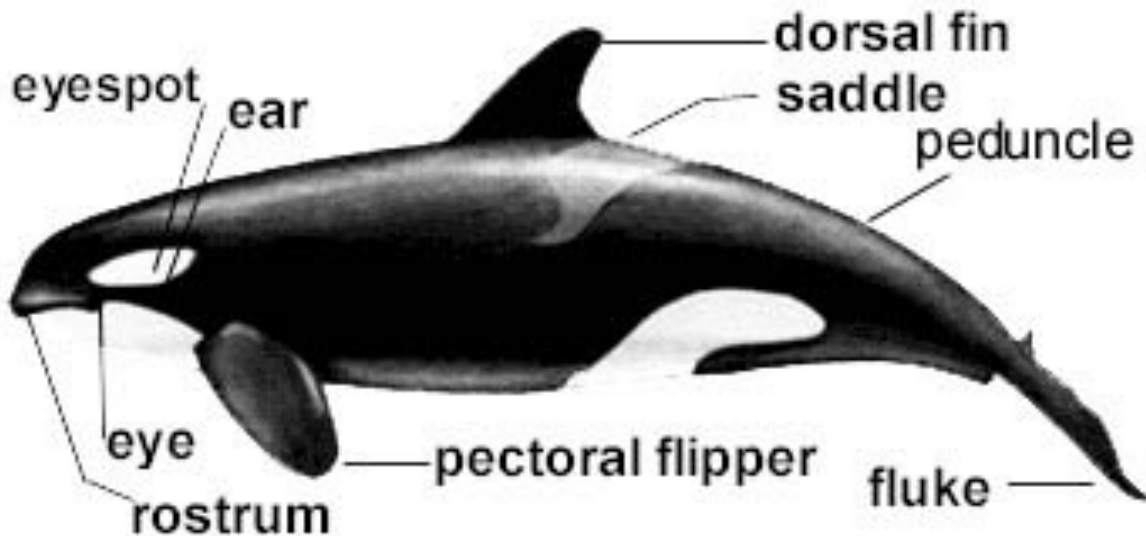
Orcas eat many different foods.

These include:

- Seals
- Sea lions
- Porpoises
- Fish

The different groups of orcas eat different foods. The transient orcas eat primarily large sea mammals. The resident orcas eat primarily

# Anatomy of a Whale



A whale breathes air out of a blowhole that sits in between eye and dorsal fin on the back.

The whale uses its pectoral flipper and fluke to push itself forward and swim up to 43.8km/h

Orcas live 50 to 80 years in the wild.

Orcas can grow up to 32 feet long and 6 tons in weight.

## Glossary:

Mammal- Warm blooded, skin covered in hair, produce and drink milk

Adolescence - Process of developing from a child into an adult

Characteristics- A feature or quality belonging typically to a person, place, or thing and serving to identify it.

Porpoises- A small toothed whale with a low triangular dorsal fin and a blunt rounded snout.

Transient- Staying in a place only for a short time.

Resident- Staying in a place for a long time

Anatomy- bodily structure of humans, animals, and other living organisms

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