



Right Whales

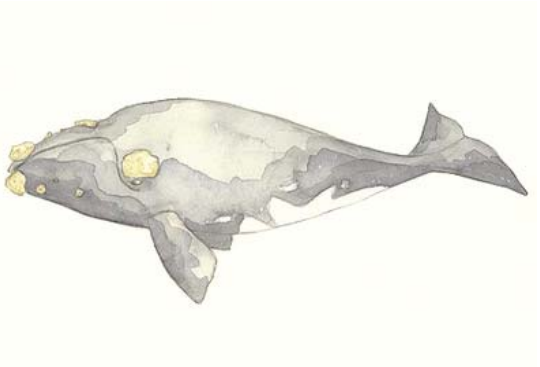

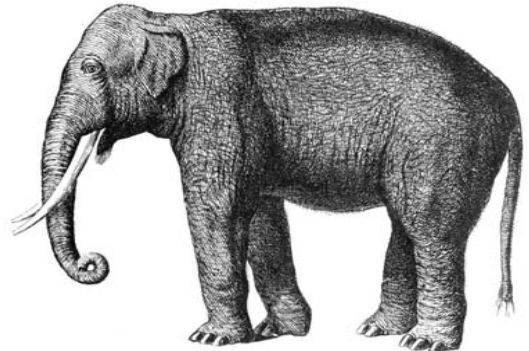
San Dieguito Academy H.S.

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How Are These Like a Whale?

		
How they breathe		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
How they move	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
How they give birth		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Feeding their young		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Their environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Types of Right Whales

- Southern Right Whales
 - 4,000 left in the world
- Northern Right Whales
 - 300 – 400 left in the world

History

- Hunting Right Whales goes back to **16th century**
- **“Right” = “Perfect”** whales to hunt
 - **Floated on surface** of water when killed
 - Large amounts of **blubber**
 - Wax
 - Oil for lamps
 - **Baleen**
 - Buggy whips
 - Skirt hoops
 - Caning for chairs
- **1935 law** to protect whales from further hunting

Anatomy

- Right Whales can reach **30-55 feet long**
- They can **weigh up to 100,000 pounds**
- **Baleen** (food filter) can be up to **9 feet long**
- A whale's stomach holds **200 gallons of food**
- A whale's **intestine is 5-6 times** the body length
- Right Whales can live **40 years or more**

How Blubber Works

- Put baggie over your hand
- Put hand with baggie in large bag
- Place in ice bucket

Is your hand cold?

Diet

- The Right Whale's diet is **shrimp and plankton**
- Eat **1 million** calories to maintain body function
- Whales eat nearly **2,625 pounds of food** a day

Geographical Coverage

- Right Whales **can be found** in:
 - Great South Channel
 - Stillwater Bank
 - Bay of Fundy
 - Scotian Shelf
 - Georgi
- Females **give birth** in the warm waters around:
 - Florida
 - Georgia

Mating and Reproduction

- Females reach reproductive maturity **7-10 years**
- Pregnancies last from **9 months** to a year
- Calves can be **10-15 feet long & weigh 3,000 pounds**
- Females only **give birth every 3 years**
- Calves **nurse** (milk) for a year

Environmental Threats

- **Continued hunting** by Japan & Norway
- **Collisions** with ships
- Getting caught in **fishing gear**

How You Can Get Involved

- Adopt a Whale
 - Pay a small monthly fee
 - Pick and name your whale
 - T-Shirts
- Pick up your trash and recycle
 - Rain run-off
 - Balloons
 - Soda can 6-pack rings
- Volunteer to help with beach clean-ups

The Right Whale Challenge!

- How many types of Right Whales are there and what are they called?
- Why are they called Right Whales?
- How does blubber work?
- What do Right Whales eat?

BONUS Questions

1. What are the threats to Right Whales?
2. What can you do to help?