

1: Moby-Dick - Wikipedia

The day the white whales came to bangor amazoncom, the day the white whales came to bangor by gerald hausman (author) – visit amazon's gerald hausman page find all the books, read about the author, and more see search results for this author.

These benevolent behemoths have long occupied a proportional space in the human imagination. And although today, whales are enough a part of our daily lives to warrant two separate emojis, there was a time when they were deeply mysterious. In some cultures they were worshiped – in Inuit mythology, whales formed from the chopped off fingers of the goddess Sedna, and ancient Chinese mythology describes a fish with the hands and feet of a man ruling over the sea. But many tales envision whales as uncontrollable, bloodthirsty menaces see the Leviathan, Bake-kujira, ketos, and kraken. Let us endeavor to determine how we arrived here and to pour one out for the cetaceans lost along the way. The Book of Jonah In a whale story even more famous than Moby-Dick, the prophet Jonah refuses to proclaim judgment on Ninevah, attempts to flee, is thrown overboard by shipmates eager to please God, and is subsequently swallowed by a whale. After three nights in its stomach, he repents and is vomited ashore, safe and sound. The drama with God continues; the whale is not heard from again. Historia Animalium by Aristotle Article continues after advertisement Aristotle, who is still known today for being very smart, distinguished between toothed and baleen whales in his natural history text; this taxonomic division continues to be used. He also wrote detailed observations of bottlenose dolphins and sperm whales and was able to estimate their life spans, a difficult feat when it comes to marine animals. Historia Animalium was an attempt to apply philosophy to the natural world by dividing animals into universal groups, making it a pioneering work of zoology that influenced scientists for thousands of years. However, it included a great deal of misinformation, like the fact that human males have more teeth than human females. How Aristotle was able to estimate the lifespan of barely visible creatures and not properly count the teeth of individuals with whom he interacted daily remains a mystery. In the next passage, he graphically depicts killer whales slaughtering another pod: This is known to the killer whale, a creature that is the enemy of the other species and the appearance of which can be represented by no other description except that of an enormous mass of flesh with savage teeth. The killer whales therefore burst into their retreats and bite and mangle their calves or the females that have calved or are still in calf, and charge and pierce them like warships ramming. The whales being sluggish in bending and slow in retaliating, and burdened by their weight, and at this season also heavy with young or weakened by travail in giving birth, know only one refuge, to retreat to the deep sea and defend their safety by means of the ocean. Thus Pliny, a very lucky man, encountered at least three breeds of whales in his journeys. Article continues after advertisement s: In his book about geography, he described them as such: About [the shores of Asia] leap numerous whales as large as mountains, fed by the vast Red Sea. Over their back and shoulders runs a terrible spine, bringing death and fate beneath their savage mouths. They are wont to suck down both ship and crew alike. Get a grip, Dicuil. Twenty-one folk categories of whale are cataloged and described in terms of their friendliness, potential threat, and edibility. All these kinds that I have just mentioned may be freely eaten and many other kinds too. As goes without saying, all of this is very important for any king to know. He encounters a dwarf standing a mere 6, feet tall, and the pair makes it to earth, which they circumnavigate in 36 hours. They determine the planet to be devoid of life until they notice the movement of a tiny spec – a sweet little whale. An Account of the Arctic Regions by William Scoresby A key source for Moby-Dick, An Account of the Arctic Regions was written by the son of a famed murderer, who had kills over the course of his career as a whaler. Scoresby wrote and illustrated this account of Arctic cetaceans – the bowhead, the beluga, and the narwhal. The Captain wanted to head for the nearest islands, which were 1, miles away. Fearing cannibals, the crew voted to head for South America instead. This resulted in a 4,mile journey and, ironically, cannibalism. Of the original 21 crew members, 8 survived. This account, specifically, is credited as the source that inspired Melville to write Moby-Dick. The Natural History of the Sperm Whale by Thomas Beale A trained surgeon, Beale sailed on a whaling ship, became fascinated by sperm whales, and provided the first accurate account of their

THE DAY THE WHITE WHALES CAME TO BANGOR pdf

physiology. Moby-Dick by Herman Melville A book about a man who is obsessed with a whale, but also so much more than that, you know? Whales and Men by Cormac McCarthy This unpublished screenplay is a dialogue-driven work about the nature of whales. I present without comment one of the few quotes available on the Internet: Whales have been evolving for thirty million years. To our one million. I have What if fantasies! What if the catalyst or the key to understanding creation lay somewhere in the immense mind of the whale? So they have this incredible mental apparatus and no one has the least notion what they do with it. Suppose he wanted to know if it had finally occurred to us to ask the whale. A movie version is forthcoming, featuring a Hemsworth, a hungry whale, and lots of CGI. Whales are, indeed, a potent metaphor, but also so much more.

2: White Killer Whale Spotted In Alaska - CBS News

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The inn where he arrives is overcrowded, so he must share a bed with the tattooed Polynesian Queequeg, a harpooner whose father was king of the fictional island of Rokovoko. Ishmael signs up with the Quaker ship-owners Bildad and Peleg for a voyage on their whaler Pequod. Peleg describes Captain Ahab: They hire Queequeg the following morning. A man named Elijah prophesies a dire fate should Ishmael and Queequeg join Ahab. While provisions are loaded, shadowy figures board the ship. On a cold Christmas Day, the Pequod leaves the harbor. Ishmael discusses cetology the zoological classification and natural history of the whale, and describes the crew members. Ahab will give the first man to sight Moby Dick a doubloon, a gold coin, which he nails to the mast. Starbuck objects that he has not come for vengeance but for profit. Five previously unknown men appear on deck and are revealed to be a special crew selected by Ahab. The pursuit is unsuccessful. Moby Dick Southeast of the Cape of Good Hope, the Pequod makes the first of nine sea-encounters, or "gams", with other ships: Ahab hails the Goney Albatross to ask whether they have seen the White Whale, but the trumpet through which her captain tries to speak falls into the sea before he can answer. In the second gam off the Cape of Good Hope, with the Town-Ho, a Nantucket whaler, the concealed story of a "judgment of God" is revealed, but only to the crew: The whale is prepared, beheaded, and barrels of oil are tried out. Standing at the head of the whale, Ahab begs it to speak of the depths of the sea. The Pequod next encounters the Jeroboam, which not only lost its chief mate to Moby Dick, but also is now plagued by an epidemic. The whale carcass still lies in the water. Ishmael compares the two heads in a philosophical way: Tashtego cuts into the head of the sperm whale and retrieves buckets of oil. He falls into the head, and the head falls off the yardarm into the sea. Queequeg dives after him and frees his mate with his sword. The Pequod next gams with the Jungfrau from Bremen. Both ships sight whales simultaneously, with the Pequod winning the contest. The three harpooners dart their harpoons, and Flask delivers the mortal strike with a lance. The carcass sinks, and Queequeg barely manages to escape. Stubb talks them out of it, but Ahab orders him away. Days later, an encounter with a harpooned whale prompts Pip, a little black cabin-boy from Alabama, to jump out of his whale boat. The whale must be cut loose, because the line has Pip so entangled in it. Furious, Stubb orders Pip to stay in the whale boat, but Pip later jumps again, and is left alone in the immense sea and has gone insane by the time he is picked up. Cooled sperm oil congeals and must be squeezed back into liquid state; blubber is boiled in the try-pots on deck; the warm oil is decanted into casks, and then stowed in the ship. After the operation, the decks are scrubbed. The coin hammered to the main mast shows three Andes summits, one with a flame, one with a tower, and one a crowing cock. Ahab stops to look at the doubloon and interprets the coin as signs of his firmness, volcanic energy, and victory; Starbuck takes the high peaks as evidence of the Trinity; Stubb focuses on the zodiacal arch over the mountains; and Flask sees nothing of any symbolic value at all. The Manxman mutters in front of the mast, and Pip declines the verb "look". Nevertheless, he carries no ill will toward the whale, which he regards not as malicious, but as awkward. Ahab puts an end to the gam by rushing back to his ship. The narrator now discusses the subjects of 1 whalers supply; 2 a glen in Tranque in the Arscides islands full of carved whale bones, fossil whales, whale skeleton measurements; 3 the chance that the magnitude of the whale will diminish and that the leviathan might perish. Leaving the Samuel Enderby, Ahab wrenches his ivory leg and orders the carpenter to fashion him another. Starbuck informs Ahab of oil leakage in the hold. Reluctantly, Ahab orders the harpooners to inspect the casks. Queequeg, sweating all day below decks, develops a chill and soon is almost mortally feverish. The carpenter makes a coffin for Queequeg, who fears an ordinary burial at sea. Queequeg tries it for size, with Pip sobbing and beating his tambourine, standing by and calling himself a coward while he praises Queequeg for his gameness. Yet Queequeg suddenly rallies, briefly convalesces, and leaps up, back in good health. The Pequod sails northeast toward Formosa and into the Pacific Ocean. Ahab, with one nostril, smells the musk from the Bashee isles, and with the other, the salt of the waters where Moby Dick swims. Ahab goes

to Perth, the blacksmith, with a bag of racehorse shoenail stubs to be forged into the shank of a special harpoon, and with his razors for Perth to melt and fashion into a harpoon barb. Ahab tempers the barb in blood from Queequeg, Tashtego, and Daggoo. The Pequod gams next with the Bachelor, a Nantucket ship heading home full of sperm oil. Every now and then, the Pequod lowers for whales with success. As the Pequod approaches the Equator, Ahab scolds his quadrant for telling him only where he is and not where he will be. He dashes it to the deck. That evening, an impressive typhoon attacks the ship. Ahab delivers a speech on the spirit of fire, seeing the lightning as a portent of Moby Dick. Starbuck sees the lightning as a warning, and feels tempted to shoot the sleeping Ahab with a musket. He orders the log be heaved, but the weathered line snaps, leaving the ship with no way to fix its location. The Pequod is now heading southeast toward Moby Dick. A man falls overboard from the mast. The life buoy is thrown, but both sink. Now Queequeg proposes that his superfluous coffin be used as a new life buoy. Starbuck orders the carpenter take care it is lidded and caulked. Next morning, the ship meets in another truncated gam with the Rachel, commanded by Captain Gardiner from Nantucket. The Rachel is seeking survivors from one of her whaleboats which had gone after Moby Dick. Ahab refuses to join the search. Twenty-four hours a day, Ahab now stands and walks the deck, while Fedallah shadows him. Next, the Pequod, in a ninth and final gam, meets the Delight, badly damaged and with five of her crew left dead by Moby Dick. Her captain shouts that the harpoon which can kill the white whale has yet to be forged, but Ahab flourishes his special lance and once more orders the ship forward. Ahab shares a moment of contemplation with Starbuck. Starbuck tries to persuade Ahab to return to Nantucket to meet both their families, but Ahab simply crosses the deck and stands near Fedallah. On the first day of the chase, Ahab smells the whale, climbs the mast, and sights Moby Dick. On the second day of the chase, Ahab leaves Starbuck in charge of the Pequod. Moby Dick smashes the three boats that seek him into splinters and tangles their lines. Ahab is rescued, but his ivory leg and Fedallah are lost. Starbuck begs Ahab to desist, but Ahab vows to slay the white whale, even if he would have to dive through the globe itself to get his revenge. Ahab lowers his boat for a final time, leaving Starbuck again on board. Moby Dick breaches and destroys two boats. Moby Dick smites the whaleboat, tossing its men into the sea. Only Ishmael is unable to return to the boat. He is left behind in the sea, and so is the only crewman of the Pequod to survive the final encounter. The whale now fatally attacks the Pequod. The whale returns to Ahab, who stabs at him again. As he does so, the line gets tangled, and Ahab bends over to free it. For an entire day, Ishmael floats on it, until the Rachel, still looking for its lost seamen, rescues him.

Structure[edit] Point of view[edit] Ishmael is the narrator, shaping his story with use of many different genres including sermons, stage plays, soliloquies, and emblematical readings. Narrator Ishmael, then, is "merely young Ishmael grown older. Bezanson warns readers to "resist any one-to-one equation of Melville and Ishmael. The simplest sequences are of narrative progression, then sequences of theme such as the three chapters on whale painting, and sequences of structural similarity, such as the five dramatic chapters beginning with "The Quarter-Deck" or the four chapters beginning with "The Candles". Chapter clusters are the chapters on the significance of the colour white, and those on the meaning of fire. Balancing chapters are chapters of opposites, such as "Loomings" versus the "Epilogue," or similars, such as "The Quarter-Deck" and "The Candles". Second, the increasingly impressive encounters with whales. In the early encounters, the whaleboats hardly make contact; later there are false alarms and routine chases; finally, the massive assembling of whales at the edges of the China Sea in "The Grand Armada". The third pattern is the cetological documentation, so lavish that it can be divided into two subpatterns. These chapters start with the ancient history of whaling and a bibliographical classification of whales, getting closer with second-hand stories of the evil of whales in general and of Moby Dick in particular, a chronologically ordered commentary on pictures of whales. The climax to this section is chapter 57, "Of whales in paint etc. As Bezanson writes, "in each case a killing provokes either a chapter sequence or a chapter cluster of cetological lore growing out of the circumstance of the particular killing," thus these killings are "structural occasions for ordering the whaling essays and sermons". Ahab with violence, Ishmael with meditation. Bezanson mentions sermons, dreams, travel account, autobiography, Elizabethan plays, and epic poetry.

3: Moby Dick: Heart of a Whale | Smithsonian Channel

These whales became the subject of a children's book, "The Day the White Whales Came to Bangor," written by Gerald Hausman. The book describes the whales jumping and playing around in the.

Mysticeti Mysticetes are also known as baleen whales. They have a pair of blowholes side-by-side and lack teeth; instead they have baleen plates which form a sieve-like structure in the upper jaw made of keratin, which they use to filter plankton from the water. Some whales, such as the humpback, reside in the polar regions where they feed on a reliable source of schooling fish and krill. Whale ribs loosely articulate with their thoracic vertebrae at the proximal end, but do not form a rigid rib cage. This adaptation allows the chest to compress during deep dives as the pressure increases. The main difference between each family of mysticete is in their feeding adaptations and subsequent behaviour. Balaenopterids are the rorquals. These animals, along with the cetotheriids, rely on their throat pleats to gulp large amounts of water while feeding. The throat pleats extend from the mouth to the navel and allow the mouth to expand to a large volume for more efficient capture of the small animals they feed on. Balaenopterids consist of two genera and eight species. This allows them to take in large amounts of water into their mouths, letting them feed more effectively. They are bottom feeders, mainly eating crustaceans and benthic invertebrates. They feed by turning on their sides and taking in water mixed with sediment, which is then expelled through the baleen, leaving their prey trapped inside. This is an efficient method of hunting, in which the whale has no major competitors. Odontoceti Odontocetes are known as toothed whales; they have teeth and only one blowhole. They rely on their well-developed sonar to find their way in the water. Toothed whales send out ultrasonic clicks using the melon. Sound waves travel through the water. Upon striking an object in the water, the sound waves bounce back at the whale. These vibrations are received through fatty tissues in the jaw, which is then rerouted into the ear-bone and into the brain where the vibrations are interpreted. These animals rely on their well-developed flippers and tail fin to propel themselves through the water; they swim by moving their fore-flippers and tail fin up and down. Whale ribs loosely articulate with their thoracic vertebrae at the proximal end, but they do not form a rigid rib cage. This adaptation allows the chest to compress during deep dives as opposed to resisting the force of water pressure. There are six species, sometimes referred to as "blackfish", that are dolphins commonly misconceived as whales: Monodontids consist of two species: They both reside in the frigid arctic and both have large amounts of blubber. Belugas, being white, hunt in large pods near the surface and around pack ice, their coloration acting as camouflage. Narwhals, being black, hunt in large pods in the aphotic zone, but their underbelly still remains white to remain camouflaged when something is looking directly up or down at them. They have no dorsal fin to prevent collision with pack ice. Sperm whales consist the largest and smallest odontocetes, and spend a large portion of their life hunting squid. The behaviour of Kogiids remains largely unknown, but, due to their small lungs, they are thought to hunt in the photic zone. These vary from size, to coloration, to distribution, but they all share a similar hunting style. They use a suction technique, aided by a pair of grooves on the underside of their head, not unlike the throat pleats on the rorquals, to feed. Evolution of cetaceans Whales are descendants of land-dwelling mammals of the artiodactyl order even-toed ungulates. They are related to the Indohyus, an extinct chevrotain-like ungulate, from which they split approximately 48 million years ago. What defines an archaeocete is the presence of anatomical features exclusive to cetaceans, alongside other primitive features not found in modern cetaceans, such as visible legs or asymmetrical teeth. Major anatomical changes included their hearing set-up that channeled vibrations from the jaw to the earbone Ambulocetus 49 mya, a streamlined body and the growth of flukes on the tail Protocetus 43 mya, the migration of the nostrils toward the top of the cranium blowholes, and the modification of the forelimbs into flippers Basilosaurus 35 mya, and the shrinking and eventual disappearance of the hind limbs the first odontocetes and mysticetes 34 mya.

4: The Beluga whale that could talk - CBS News

Forty-five years ago today, the Penobscot River was invaded by an odd-looking creature that had all of Bangor in a panic for a week. At first mistaken for a white submarine, and a shark, porpoise, seal, sturgeon, sea lion, halibut, dolphin and cod fish, the white creature that.

Children hung over bridge railings to get a glimpse. But this was no concert. Fascinated crowds lined the banks of the river. For about a week, the white thing, which usually appeared for short stints as a hump in the water, moved up and down the river between a former Bangor bridge and the old Bangor Water Works dam. It took awhile for the newspaper to definitively identify the mysterious swimming thing. After a few days of speculation and disagreement – shark, seal, porpoise, very large cod, submarine – a University of Maine professor named Horace Quick was able to get close enough to recognize it as a beluga whale. Belugas are white and reach an average adult length of feet. It had wandered up the Penobscot, probably in pursuit of a pool of smelts or some other stock of fish. Whales sometimes make their way into the river, but for them to come this far up was extremely unusual. No one was allowed on the pier, but it was crowded that day, as were both riverbanks. He remembers his older brother, who was 29 at the time, going out in a boat, possibly to get a closer look. A few other curious people in small boats pursued the whale as well. Liz Plumer Ashe of Bangor was just 6 years old at the time, but she remembers leaning over a railing alongside her father. After a few days, however, some Bangor residents and officials became hostile toward the creatures, according to news reports. Some residents expressed concern that the whales would hurt local salmon populations. Others talked about harpooning the whales. Still others allegedly shot arrows at them and harassed them in boats, according to news reports. Fed up with the traffic problems the spectacle caused, local police officials reached out to the Sea and Shore Fisheries Commission to see how best to get rid of the whales so the city could move on. Apparently the whales somehow caught wind of the plot against them. On May 2, they fled back toward sea and were gone. Since then, there has been at least one false whale-sighting alarm in the vicinity. Brewer firefighters launched a hovercraft, only to find the whale was just a plastic tarp that got stuck on some rocks. Friday, May 2, according to Matt Bishop, interim director and curator at the historical society. The Maine Discovery Museum is displaying a series of whale-visit-inspired watercolors by Maine artist Francis Hamabe, who died in , as well as news clippings from the Bangor Daily News. Those items are on display on the first floor of the museum, to the left of the reception desk.

5: A Literary History of Whales | Literary Hub

According to Chris Rose of the University of New England, a commercial fisherman spotted a whale carcass with bite marks about 5 miles off the coast of Old Orchard Beach this week. University of New England professor of marine science James Sulikowski confirmed the bite marks came from a great white shark.

Very like a whale. Whales range in size from the blue whale, the largest animal known to have ever existed at 30 m 98 ft and tonnes, to pygmy species such as the pygmy sperm whale at 3. The day of the whale is the 27th of April. The whales are so inconsiderate. That inscrutable thing is chiefly what I hate ; and be the white whale agent, or be the white whale principal, I will wreak that hate upon him. Starbuck; wilt thou not chase the white whale! How many barrels will thy vengeance yield thee even if thou gettest it, Captain Ahab? The Quarter-Deck All visible objects, man, are but as pasteboard masks. But in each event â€” in the living act, the undoubted deed â€” there, some unknown but still reasoning thing puts forth the mouldings of its features from behind the unreasoning mask. If man will strike, strike through the mask! How can the prisoner reach outside except by thrusting through the wall? To me, the white whale is that wall, shoved near to me. He tasks me; he heaps me; I see in him outrageous strength , with an inscrutable malice sinewing it. For could the sun do that, then could I do the other; since there is ever a sort of fair play herein, jealousy presiding over all creations. But not my master, man, is even that fair play. Truth hath no confines. It was that accursed white whale that razeed me; made a poor pegging lubber of me for ever and a day! And this is what ye have shipped for, men! It does seem to me, that herein we see the rare virtue of a strong individual vitality, and the rare virtue of thick walls, and the rare virtue of interior spaciousness. Do thou, too, remain warm among ice. Do thou, too, live in this world without being of it. Be cool at the equator; keep thy blood fluid at the Pole. Like the great dome of St. But how easy and how hopeless to teach these fine things! Of erections, how few are domed like St. Herman Melville , in *Moby-Dick* , in Ch. One often hears of writers that rise and swell with their subject, though it may seem but an ordinary one. How, then, with me, writing of this Leviathan? Unconsciously my chirography expands into placard capitals. Friends, hold my arms! For in the mere act of penning my thoughts of this Leviathan, they weary me, and make me faint with their outreaching comprehensiveness of sweep, as if to include the whole circle of the sciences, and all the generations of whales, and men, and mastodons, past, present, and to come, with all the revolving panoramas of empire on earth, and throughout the whole universe, not excluding its suburbs. Such, and so magnifying, is the virtue of a large and liberal theme! We expand to its bulk. To produce a mighty book, you must choose a mighty theme. No great and enduring volume can ever be written on the flea, though many there be who have tried it. The skeleton of the whale furnishes but little clue to the shape of his fully invested body. Methinks it is like a weasel. It is backed like a weasel. Or like a whale.

6: fifbaurophogal 15 | www.enganchecubano.com

The Real Moby Dick, Bangor Public Library, Harlow St, Bangor, United States. Mon Nov 13 at pm, One of the most famous novels in American literature is Moby Dick. We are all familiar with the climactic scene when the enraged white whale charges and sinks the Pequod.

Orcinus citoniensis fossil, an extinct species of the same genus, Museo Capellini in Bologna Modern orca skeleton, Naturalis Leiden. Orcinus orca is the only recognized extant species in the genus Orcinus , one of many animal species originally described by Linnaeus in in Systema Naturae. The killer whale lineage probably branched off shortly thereafter. Indeed, the genus name Orcinus means "of the kingdom of the dead", [10] or "belonging to Orcus ". Since the s, "orca" has steadily grown in popularity. The term "orca" is euphemistically preferred by some to avoid the negative connotations of "killer", [12] and because, being part of the family Delphinidae , the species is more closely related to other dolphins than to whales. They are sometimes referred to as "blackfish", a name also used for other whale species. These are the most commonly sighted of the three populations in the coastal waters of the northeast Pacific. British Columbia and Washington resident populations are amongst the most intensively studied marine mammals anywhere in the world. Researchers have identified and named over killer whales over the past 30 years. The diets of these whales consist almost exclusively of marine mammals. However, the saddle patches of transients are solid and uniformly gray. The term has become increasingly common and may eventually replace the transient label. A third population of killer whales in the northeast Pacific was discovered in , when a humpback whale researcher observed them in open water. As their name suggests, they travel far from shore and feed primarily on schooling fish. Offshores typically congregate in groups of 20â€”75, with occasional sightings of larger groups of up to Offshores appear to be smaller than the others, and females are characterized by dorsal fin tips that are continuously rounded. The eye patch slants forward. Transients and residents live in the same areas, but avoid each other. Two dwarf species, named Orcinus nanus and Orcinus glacialis, were described during the s by Soviet researchers, but most cetacean researchers are skeptical about their status, and linking these directly to the types described below is difficult. It has a large white eye patch. Most of the dark parts of its body are medium gray instead of black, although it has a dark gray patch called a "dorsal cape" [40] stretching back from its forehead to just behind its dorsal fin. The white areas are stained slightly yellow. It feeds mostly on seals. Its eye patch is distinctively slanted forwards, rather than parallel to the body axis. Like type B, it is primarily white and medium gray, with a dark gray dorsal cape and yellow-tinged patches. Its only observed prey is the Antarctic cod. The first video record of this type in life happened between the Kerguelen and Crozet Islands in And although nothing is known about the type D diet, it is suspected to include fish because groups have been photographed around longline vessels , where they reportedly prey on Patagonian toothfish Dissostichus eleginoides. Of three orca ecotypes in the Antarctic, one preys on minke whales , the second on seals and penguins, and the third on fish. Another ecotype lives in the eastern North Atlantic, while the three Northeast Pacific ecotypes are labeled the transient, resident and offshore populations described above. Research has supported a proposal to reclassify the Antarctic seal- and fish-eating populations and the North Pacific transients as a distinct species, leaving the remaining ecotypes as subspecies. The first split in the orca population, between the North Pacific transients and the rest, occurred an estimated , years ago. Such a designation would mean that each new species becomes subject to separate conservation assessments. Calves are born with a yellowish or orange tint, which fades to white. It has a heavy and robust body [50] with a large dorsal fin up to 1. Antarctic killer whales may have pale gray to nearly white backs. Adult killer whales are very distinctive, seldom confused with any other sea creature. The firm middle and back teeth hold prey in place, while the front teeth are inclined slightly forward and outward to protect them from powerful jerking movements. Dorsal fin s also exhibit sexual dimorphism , with those of males about 1. Variations such as nicks, scratches, and tears on the dorsal fin and the pattern of white or grey in the saddle patch are unique. Published directories contain identifying photographs and names for hundreds of North Pacific animals. Photographic identification has enabled the local population of killer whales to be counted each year rather

than estimated, and has enabled great insight into lifecycles and social structures. Lawrence Island , and near the Russian coast. Burdin and Erich Hoyt , filmed an adult male nicknamed Iceberg. They have exceptionally sophisticated echolocation abilities, detecting the location and characteristics of prey and other objects in the water by emitting clicks and listening for echoes, [68] as do other members of the dolphin family. Females can often breed until age 40, followed by a rapid decrease in fertility. Some are claimed to have lived substantially longer: Granny J2 was estimated by some researchers to have been as years old at the time of her death, though a biopsy sample indicated her age as 65 to 80 years. Gestation varies from 15 to 18 months. In resident pods, births occur at any time of year, although winter is the most common. According to observations in several regions, all male and female pod members participate in the care of the young. Wild males live around 29 years on average, with a maximum of about 60 years. This would have made him up to 90 years old. Examination of his teeth indicated he died around age 35, [81] but this method of age determination is now believed to be inaccurate for older animals. In this incident, an adult male killed the calf of a female within the same pod, with his mother also joining in the assault. Such behavior matches that of many smaller dolphin species such as the bottlenose dolphin. Due to their enormous range , numbers, and density, relative distribution is difficult to estimate, [85] but they clearly prefer higher latitudes and coastal areas over pelagic environments. They have been sighted, though more infrequently, in the Mediterranean , the Arabian Sea , the Gulf of Mexico , and the Caribbean. Recorded sightings have been made from almost the entire shoreline. However, a small year-round population is known to exist in the Strait of Gibraltar. However, killer whales are merely seasonal visitors to Arctic waters, and do not approach the pack ice in the summer. With the rapid Arctic sea ice decline in the Hudson Strait , their range now extends deep into the northwest Atlantic. Each summer, the same individuals appear off the coasts of British Columbia and Washington. Despite decades of research, where these animals go for the rest of the year remains unknown. Transient pods have been sighted from southern Alaska to central California. They are sometimes called the wolves of the sea, because they hunt in groups like wolf packs. The curved dorsal fins are typical of resident females. Fish-eating killer whales prey on around 30 species of fish. They then slap the ball with their tail flukes, stunning or killing up to 15 fish at a time, then eating them one by one. Carousel feeding has only been documented in the Norwegian killer whale population, as well as some oceanic dolphin species. Groups even attack larger cetaceans such as minke whales , gray whales , [] and, rarely, sperm whales or blue whales. Killer whales generally attack young or weak animals; however, a group of five or more may attack a healthy adult. When hunting a young whale, a group chases it and its mother to exhaustion. Eventually, they separate the pair and surround the calf, drowning it by keeping it from surfacing. Pods of female sperm whales sometimes protect themselves by forming a protective circle around their calves with their flukes facing outwards, using them to repel the attackers. Adult bull sperm whales, which are large, powerful and aggressive when threatened, and fully grown adult blue whales, which are possibly too large to overwhelm, are not believed to be prey for killer whales. The introduction of modern whaling techniques may have aided killer whales by the sound of exploding harpoons indicating availability of prey to scavenge, and compressed air inflation of whale carcasses causing them to float, thus exposing them to scavenging. However, the devastation of great whale populations by unfettered whaling has possibly reduced their availability for killer whales, and caused them to expand their consumption of smaller marine mammals, thus contributing to the decline of these as well. Walrus and sea otters are less frequently taken. Often, to avoid injury, killer whales disable their prey before killing and eating it. This may involve throwing it in the air, slapping it with their tails, ramming it, or breaching and landing on it. In the Aleutian Islands , a decline in sea otter populations in the s was controversially attributed by some scientists to killer whale predation, although with no direct evidence. Beaching, usually fatal to cetaceans, is not an instinctive behaviour, and can require years of practice for the young. This washes the prey into the water, where other killer whales lie in wait. Four others then learned to copy the behaviour. Killer whales frequently engage in surface behaviour such as breaching jumping completely out of the water and tail-slapping. These activities may have a variety of purposes, such as courtship, communication, dislodging parasites , or play. Spyhopping is a behaviour in which a whale holds its head above water to view its surroundings. Social structure A pair of killer whales in a transient population in

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7: Whales - Wikiquote

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8: When the Beluga whales swam up the Penobscot River to Bangor - Lewiston Sun Journal

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9: Whale - Wikipedia

The whales need pounds of food every day, and Chinook salmon is the only food that the resident orcas will eat. Super-Intelligence Whichever way you look at orca brains, you have to conclude that these guys are super-intelligent.

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