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Make Our Ocean Blue Again

By Lauren K.

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Imagine a sea turtle choking on a plastic bag. This happens to a bunch of sea creatures every time we dump trash into our ocean. To prevent this, we can reduce plastic.

Heirs to Our Ocean is an environmental group working together to save our ocean. Teen volunteers come to events and spread awareness and solutions to this problem. This organization has been in action for two years now and they made new ways to reduce products that are harmful for the

ocean. They have introduced us to straws made out of paper, bamboo, and wood. Plastic wasn't built to biodegrade so once it ends up in the ocean, it stays there. Meanwhile, paper, bamboo, and wood can break down quickly once it ends up in the ocean and not harm any marine animals or plants.

Heirs to Our Ocean also wants to get rid of single-use plastics, such as plastic wrappers on candy. So, they made gum without wrappers so that no extra waste is formed. Finally, people have



become concerned about our ocean once "Heirs to Our Ocean" and other groups have educated us about all the many sea creatures have been harmed from our trash.

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Journey With The Whales

By Justin Y.

There are two types of whales. One type of whale has baleen and another has teeth. This article will be about baleen whales, toothed whales and the journey they take from Alaska to Baja California.

An average baleen whale dives down to get food four to five times a day. On each dive, they col-

lect 3,000 pounds of food. That means that they eat about 15,000 pounds of food a day! If the baleen whale catches a fish that's too big, they will have to spit it out. The reason they get so much food is because the baleen whale needs to get fat for their 3 month journey. The

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Photograph by Ralph Lee Hopkins, National Geographic Creative <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/09/humpback-whale-delisting-endangered-species-recovery/>



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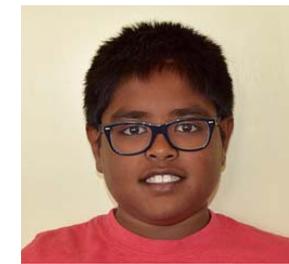
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Amazing Volunteer: Mike Bell

By Ali E.

Mike Bell is an amazing volunteer at the Aquatic Nursery in the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. When asked, he said told visitors about whale migration during the Whale Fiesta. Most of the time, he teaches people about abalone in the aquatic nursery. Mike really likes volunteering at the aquarium, and he has so much fun that he doesn't really think of it as a job.

When he was telling people about abalone and whales, he was also putting colored water in tubes. The

water was colored so he could tell the differences in salinity. Four of the pitchers were salt water. The first of the four was the saltiest, the next was less salty, and so on. The fifth pitcher had fresh water. As he put the water in the tubes, the water stayed separated. The saltiest was the densest, so it stayed at the bottom. The fresh water was the lightest and it stayed on the top.

It was lots of fun to talk to Mike Bell and to learn about whale migration.



Plastic and Ocean Pollution

By Maggi A.

Every day, millions of marine animals die from plastic waste in the ocean. Many animals mistake plastic for food and

waste builds up and makes the ocean polluted.

Plastic ends up in the ocean when we litter in our beaches and dump

trash in sewers. This problem started every since plastic was invented and people were clueless about our environment at the time and made plastic so that it's not biodegradable. Biodegradable means it's able to break down when it's exposed to nature.

There are several ways that trash and pollution can hurt our environment. If there's a lot of trash in our ocean, beaches may become unsafe for us to play in. For example, if broken glass washes up on the shore, we may accidentally step on it, and cut our feet.

Also, if trash keeps building up in the ocean, boats may have trouble getting across and the trash can damage the boats. If plastic and other waste is mistaken for food, sea animals may continue to die. This means there will be less seafood for us to eat, and our ecosystem will be in trouble.

If something isn't done about this problem soon, our ocean can become damaged and we will never be able to fix it. Please help us by picking up after your trash and spreading the word.



<http://www.noaa.gov/resource-collections/ocean-pollution>

Salt Water and Whales

By Anza E.



Mike Bell, an aquatic nursery volunteer showed visitors a science project about the density of salt water compared to fresh water. He used five types of colored water. He used pipets to place the five types of water on top of each other. The salt water at the bottom was the densest, which means that it was the heaviest and the easiest

for baby whales to float in. The fresh water was on the top because it was the least dense and the hardest for the baby whales to float in.

Mike Bell told us that when whales give birth to babies, the calves cannot swim as well as their mothers, so they have more trouble floating. The denser the water is, the better

the whales can float, which is why the grey whales go to the sea next to Mexico, which is really dense. After the babies are born, the whales migrate to their feeding grounds, which is close to Alaska, then they feed their calves. He used this experiment to teach kids about salt water and how the whales use it.

Terrific Whale Migration Facts

By Hailey R.



<https://whalewatchvallarta.com/puerto-vallarta-humpback-whales/>

Did you know that whales travel 10,000-12,000 miles a year just to have their babies? They do this because the water is warmer in the lagoon of the coast of Mexico. It is easier for the baby whales to float in denser water, and the ocean next to Mexico is very salty, which makes it denser.

Blubber is like fat that

helps whales keep warm in the icy cold ocean. But, baby whales do not have as much blubber as adult whales do, so it's very important for the babies to be born in warm water.

Mike Bell is a volunteer at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and he taught people about how salt water in the ocean is denser than the fresh water in the

lakes during the CMA's Whale Fiesta. He also talked about whales and migration.

Another amazing fact is that you can track their migration on websites and you can see where they are every day of the year. It's also pretty cool that the whales can be seen just off the coast of California!

Whale or Fish?

By Jonathon G.



Have you ever wondered the difference between a whale and a fish? Like gills or anything related to sharks? If you did, this will be the right essay for you.

Time for the whales. Most whales are predator. Only some whales are prey. Whales breathe in oxygen

with their blow holes.

Some whales have baleen. Baleen is a hair-like substance that whales use to catch plankton.

Other whales have teeth. They use their teeth to catch bigger prey such as fish, squid, and others. They also flap their fins up and down.

Let's talk about fish now. Fish have gills and are related to sharks that which has a huge difference between whales and fishes. They flap their fins side to side. Most fish are prey and eat plants depending on the species. Those were some differences between fish and whales.

The Bizarre Facts of Blubber and Baleen

By Sophia M.

Do you know that whales have baleen? Baleen is made of the protein of keratin. All whales don't have baleen though. It's harder for whales to catch food with teeth, but with baleen the whales gulp in the fish and push out the water from their mouth.

Whales that have baleen live closer to the sur-

face. The person that was interviewed had an example of how to catch food with baleen and it was pretty easy to pick up the food.

Do you ever wonder how whales don't get cold? Well, they have a layer of fat called blubber. Blubber is an insulator. It keeps away any cold. All whales have blubber. Blubber can

be up to one foot thick. Some whales have more blubber than others because some live in colder climates.

The person that was interviewed also had a bucket of cold water where you would put the "blubber" on your hand and then it was warm.



<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-naturehistory-toothless-whales-180964717/>

Wonderful Whale Watching

By Ashley M.

Whale watching is a fun activity where people go out on a boat and look for whales in their natural environment. The Cabrillo Whale Watch program is a program that helps people become interested in whales by taking them on a boat and educating them by asking and answering questions. Sherrie, a whale watcher in the

program, went on her first whale watch in February of 2017 and now educates others during whale watches. Sherrie said many people ask, "How big are baby whales?" (Between 14-16 feet long and 1,000-1,500 pounds), "How are whales different and similar to humans?" (Whales live in water but both humans and whales are mammals),

and "Can the boats hurt the whales?" (Yes, but most captains know how far away they should be, and the whales will usually swim away if a boat gets too close). People can learn many things about whales and their lives in the sea when they go on a whale watch.



<https://guidetoiceland.is/book-holiday-trips/whale-watching-tour-900--1200>

Blubber and Baleen

By Gwendolynn H.

Blubber is a whale's layer of fat that helps the whale stay warm.

How does it stay warm? Well the blubber traps heat so the whales won't get cold.

All whales have blubber but some blubber is

thicker or thinner than others; it depends on where they live. Whales that live in warmer weather have thinner blubber because they don't need that much protection from the cold. In colder places they have thicker blubber.

Baleen is made of a protein called keratin, which is the same protein as hair and nails. All whales have blubber but not all whales have baleen.

These were some facts about whales' blubber and baleen.



http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/ endangered_species/cetaceans/

The Amazing Exploration of Whales

By Victoria J.



<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/embattled-vaquita-group-says-just-12-left/>

One of people's favorite sea animals is the whale since they are very long and have the largest brains in the world. The bowhead whale is 66 feet while the blue whale has a very surprising record of 110 feet! Even though the Pygmy right whale is only 21 feet, it is about 5 times longer than an average human.

There are two types of whales. One type has teeth

and one is the owner of baleens. The baleen whales go to the floor and scoop up small animals on the ground such as shrimps and crabs. Their throats aren't big enough to swallow a car or even a human. Therefore, we don't have to fear about getting swallowed by a whale.

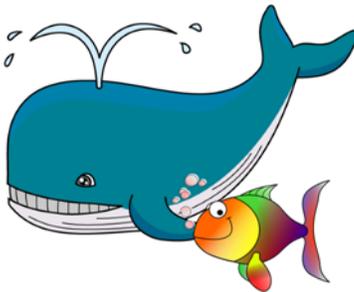
One endangered type of whale is called the Vaquita whale. It lives around

Mexico, and it is almost extinct - only 60 Vaquita whales are still alive. The Vaquita whales are the type of whales with teeth.

Sperm whales are the largest toothed predators on earth. Sperm whales weigh up to 50 tons and can grow up to 60 feet long. Its brain is the largest - 20 pounds! The sperm whale's head makes up 1/3 of its body length.

What are the Differences Between Whales and Fish?

By Marcus L.



www.clipartpanda.com

What are the difference between whales and Fish? There are lots of differences. Here are a few of them. I went to the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Over there, I took a quiz. It was about whales, fish, and the differences and similarities. One similarity is that they both live in the ocean.

Also, they both have a tail. There are also differences of fish and whales. One difference is whales have blubber. They also have a blowhole to breathe out of water. Another difference is fish breathe through gills. Fish also swim with fins and their tail goes side to side. And fins from the whale

goes up and down. Whales have either baleen or teeth. Whales and Fish are very different but also have similarities. Finally, whales are different and similar from fish in many more ways. They are both ocean animals that are different species. Those are some similarities and differences.

Make Our Ocean Blue Again

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Photo by Luke Southwell

wrappers on candy. So, they made gum without wrappers so that no extra waste is formed. Finally, people have become concerned about our ocean once "Heirs to Our Ocean" and other groups have edu-

cated us about all the many sea creatures have been harmed from our trash.

"Heirs to Our Ocean" has worked hard and made solutions for the environment to be safer and our lives to be greener. Organi-

zations like these help our community and educate us on how to reduce bad products that hurt ocean life.

"Heirs to Our Ocean" helps the world and so should you.

Whales vs. Fish

By Rishi M.

What do Whales do? What do fish eat? How do they live, and where do they live? Whales are bigger. Fish have gills. This article is about whales vs. fish. Whales must have blowholes and breath at the surface of the ocean. They also grow to huge sizes. Like 60 feet long.

Sperm Whales eat squid and Baleen Whales

eat billions of plankton a day. Whales weigh about 70 tons or more. Fish have gills to breathe. Some fish eat plankton. They have cartilage for bones. Sharks hunt other fish because they are predators! But luckily, sharks don't attack humans unless if they are Tiger Sharks. Tiger Sharks will eat anything that can get their jaws on! Their

jaws are very strong! Both whales and fish are different and similar. They have spines, they breathe oxygen, and live in the sea ocean.

In conclusion, whales and fish are similar in many ways but can be different too. If they can, sharks might eat whales. Whales are bigger, but fish and sharks are more agile.



<http://www.aloha-hawaii.com/things-to-do/activities/scuba-diving/>

Splish Splash

By Jordan B.

Sherrie, a whale watcher and teacher in the Cabrillo Whale Watch program, was helping kids learn more about whales on January 28, 2018 at Cabrillo Beach. Sherrie likes her job because she likes helping others learn about whale and dolphin anatomy.

Some fun facts she tells people are: humpback whales eat the same

amount of calories as if a human were to eat 1,500 Burger King Whoppers. A fin whale consumes the same amount of calories as 8,000 Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. A sperm whale's brain weighs 22 pounds, and a blue whale (which is the largest animal in the world) has babies as long as 23 feet when born.

Sherrie also informs

people that whales are actually very similar to humans because they are warm blooded, have hair, breath air with their lungs, give live birth, and feed milk to their babies. Whales even communicate through music. Although whales don't seem too similar to humans, they are actually very similar in many ways.



<http://www.bajainsider.com/article/whale-sharks-sea-cortez>

Journey With The Whales

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baleen whale gets lots of food each day.

The reason they get so much food is because the baleen whale needs to get fat for their 3 month journey. The baleen whale gets lots of food each day.

The toothed whale also takes the same long journey. The largest

toothed whale is the sperm whale. The smallest toothed whale is the dwarf sperm whale. The dwarf sperm whale lives in Vaquita and is endangered. There are only 60 left in the whole world!

We asked Paul about the whales and he said that whales are part of the ce-

tacean order. In that order, Paul said it includes dolphins and porpoises.

Whales are very fascinating creatures. They are a big part of the ocean. The baleen whales and teeth whales both take the journey from Alaska to Baja California.



Photo by Luke Southwell

PHOTO ALBUM



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