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Gentle Giants

Whales come in all shapes and sizes. The fastest whale is the killer whale, reaching speeds up to 34 miles per hour. One type of whale, the narwhal, has a huge nose horn which can easily kill any animal.

One other type of whale, the beluga whale, is a rather small whale and is nick named the sea canary. They were hunted for their blubber to use for oil in lanterns.

Another type is the Sperm Whale, which can dive thousands of feet under the water, over 3 Empire State buildings.

Blue Whales are the largest type of whale, weighing over 40 tons. The largest blood vessel in a Blue Whale is big enough for a human to swim in. Its heart weighs a ton.

Another whale is the humpback whale, which makes soothing hums. The humpback whale is capable of leaping out of the wa-



Photo of a blue whale from the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

ter. The humpback is famous because of a whale named Humphrey in San Francisco; it swam up a river, but was saved in time by a marine biologist and some locals.

by Max F.

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A Whale of a Time at the CMA Library

PressFriends would like to thank the Friends of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, and the CMA Library and Librarian Cecily Thomas for hosting this issue of CMA Kids News at the CMA's Whale Fiesta.

If you are interested in participating in our next CMA Kids News workshop, please email us at info@pressfriends.org.

Write On!



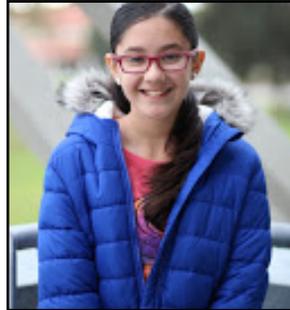
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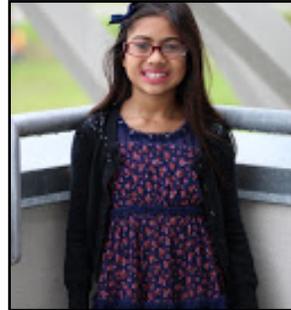
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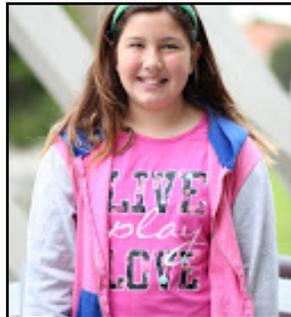
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Jun



Mario



Sophia



Emerson



Peter



Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

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Whales

Did you know whales have whale louse? A number of animals, such as barnacles and whale louse, make their homes in whale skin. There are 78 species of whales and the biggest one is the blue whale. It can grow up to 110 feet long. It was hunted for blubber. There are 14 species of whales that have baleen. Baleen whales were hunted for their baleen to make brushes from and whale bones were used to make necklaces.

Out of all the whales, the killer whale, also known as orca, is the fastest in the water. Killer whales live in pods and can surprise animals due to their black and white coloring. When the fish below look up they see white and when they look down they see black. Orcas have dorsal fins that can be up to six feet tall.

Another species of whale is the sperm whale. They have the largest brain and teeth. Sperm whales eat giant squid. According to

the book *Whales*, sperm whales are only found in water more than 3,200 feet deep and the females and calves live in tropical seas.

There are two types of arctic whales, the amazing narwhal and the beluga. Neither have dorsal fins. In Russia, the beluga whale is called “the white one”. Some sailors even nicknamed them the canaries of the seas.

by Emerson M.

4,039 Whales Under the Sea

Have you ever wondered how many whales have been spotted in the period of one year? Well, the number is way more than the amount of sea turtles. In fact, most sea turtles are endangered, especially the Hawksbill turtle. The Hawksbill turtle has a bill that looks like a hawk’s bill. The Leatherback is not as endangered and is five feet long. The Hawksbill has an 80% decline so we need to save the turtles!

A nice lady named Noreen Marinelli works at the Point Vicente Interpretive

Center and teaches about animals, hikes, and whales nearby. She is a volunteer at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and had interesting animal skins and one by one asked people to identify what animal the skins came from.

Georgette Jenkins taught people how to make origami models of whales, fish, and more. However, you cannot compare the amount of origami whales to the amount

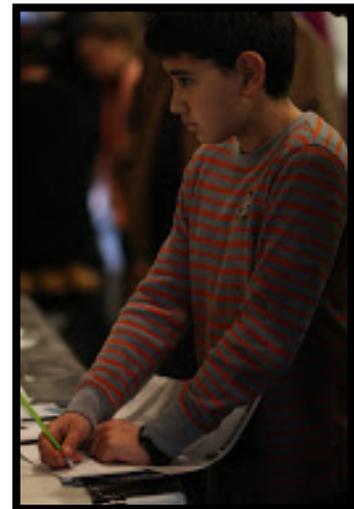


Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

of real whales under the sea, which is 4,039.

by Lucas E.

A World of Whales

The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium had a lot of information about whales and their habitats. There are a lot of whales in the ocean like blue whales, gray whales, and others. There are 23 different kinds of whales in the ocean. When the whales are born they drink the milk from their mothers. The milk is very fatty, almost like cheese! They gain 25-70 pounds a day when they drink this milk. When they grow older they grow this “blanket” called blubber. It is 8-10 inches and it covers the body. It keeps the whale warm. The skin of the



Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

whale is soft and smooth and feels like rubber, but the gray whale is different because it has barnacles on its body. The difference between the male and female whale is that the female whale has

two openings on the belly where the milk comes from.

There is so much more information about whales and their daily life.

by Peter T.

The Pacific Seahorse

There is so much information about the seahorse! There are 35 different types! The Pacific Seahorse lives in the Pacific coast of North and South America. They eat plankton, small organisms and crustaceans. They swallow their food whole. They do not have teeth so the food has to be small enough to fit into their snout. The Pacific Seahorse can be a variety of colors including orange, yellow,

red, brown, and black. They can have up to 3,000 babies and the male gives birth, not the female. The Pacific Seahorse can grow up to one foot long and prefers warmer water. They also camouflage so they do not get eaten.

Come visit the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium to see the seahorses. They are very cool animals.

by Sophia M.



Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

Sea Anemones, Urchins, and Starfish

At the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, there is a touch tank with many animals. Ron was a very helpful man who helped answer some of my questions.

The touch-tank was open since 1984 when the aquarium was built. He said that sea anemones eat with tentacles that sting prey like jellyfish. They eat by curling up their



Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

tentacles and eating the food. When you touch their tentacles, they think that you are prey because they do not have eyes. Since humans have seven layers of skin, the stinging of the sea anemones does not hurt us and it just feels sticky.

Sea urchins' spikes are prickly because they come to a sharp point. They have barber kind of fish-hooks. When a person slams his or her hand into the Sea urchins spike, they usually get the barber kind point stuck in his or her hand. Only the lifeguards are allowed to take out the point out of the person's hand.

The way the starfish eats is very interesting. They eat by using their



Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

suction cups on their legs. They have up to 1700 of them! Then, their stomach comes out and eats the food, and then the stomach goes back in. This process takes about 35 minutes.

The sea urchin eats by crawling around all day and eating its food with its five jaws.

by Brendan L.

Sea Stars

At the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium there are starfish. When a starfish loses an arm, it can grow back. It takes three months for their arms to grow back. Some starfish are big and some are small. Starfish come in many shapes, sizes, and colors. Starfish can move in little steps and they feel hard. Some

starfish are red, blue, and yellow. Most starfish have five thick arms, but some have more. Starfish have strong skin but some have smooth skin. Starfish live in salty water and some live in the deep sea.

by June L.

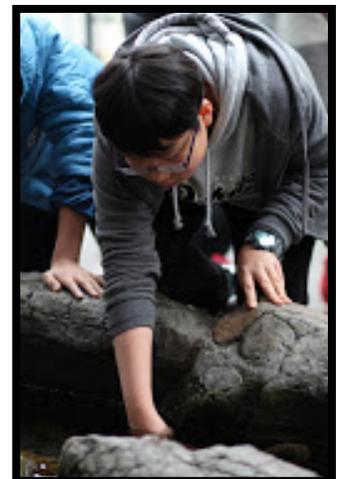
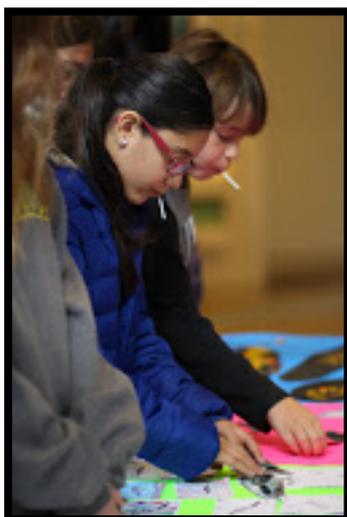


Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

The Filter Feeders

Welcome to the world of sea anemones, the filter feeders. There are a lot of species of sea anemones, some with genders and some without.

They live in places as hot as the tropics and as cold as



Photos by Kaitlan Tseng

the arctic. However, they prefer to live near the shore. They attach themselves to rocks and coral reefs. They do not just stay still, they move! But mostly they like staying still. When they do move they move by sliding along slowly.

Who eats them? Snails and the leather star eat them. Sea anemones eat things as small as planktons and things that get caught in their tentacles such as fish and hermit crabs.

They cannot see, hear, or smell. They have a nervous system that allows them to feel. They scare away predators by stinging them. They can live up to 60-80 years. There are three different ways that they reproduce. First, they can



Photos by Kaitlan Tseng

split themselves into two. Second, they are born from a polyp. And third, they are born the standard way. Sea Anemones are interesting creatures and fun to learn about. Come visit them at the local aquarium.

by Ashley C.

Sea Animals

At the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium there are many sea animal exhibits like the fish, starfish, seahorse, whales, and a touch tank. If a starfish loses a leg it will grow back in three to four months. The starfish lives for 15 years and the other animals in the touch tank usually live in the ocean.

The anemones in the touch tank have tentacles so they can sting. The starfish can move and the sea urchin is interesting because they have five jaws. There are 3,000 to 4,000 fish in the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. The whale is bigger than the fish and the sea urchin is dangerous so do not touch

it. The whale is not a fish but it is a mammal. The crab has two claws and they have many legs and they walk sideways. The squid has 10 arms and the octopus has eight. The turtle is fast in the ocean but slow on land.

by Mario L.

West Coast Sea Nettle

If you have ever seen a jellyfish you know that they are absolutely beautiful! They start out when the mother releases them in an egg-like case. It looks like a quarter of a circle but it is very squiggly. They are left at birth and move around to find a place to rest. They later turn to egg yolk jelly which look like tiny egg yolks in the sea. Finally, as they mature they form into jellyfish.

As young jelly fish, they are about as tall as a ruler,

from the tip to the end of their longest tentacle. However, when they become adults they can get as tall as five feet!

West Coast Sea Nettles live in the west coast of North America and eat small fish, krill, and shrimp. The jellyfish need a current in order to move and find food. The West Coast Sea Nettle Jellyfish are beautiful, magnificent creatures.

by Harmony D.

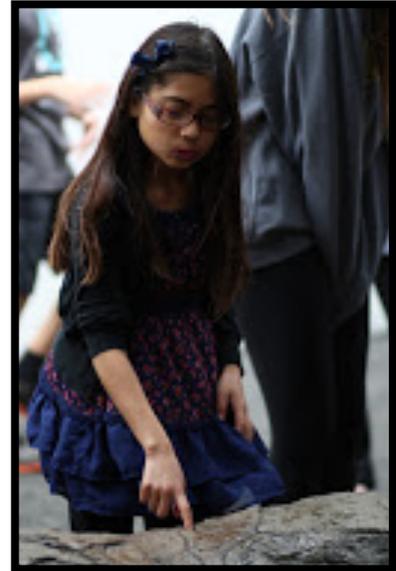


Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

The Red and White Abalone

On the west coast of North America, there are eight species of abalone: the Red, Pink, White, Pinto, Threaded and the Flat.

Men have used abalone since man was first here. They have used their shells for tools and decoration. Some shells were even used as currency.

In this article, we will be looking at the red and white species of abalone. The Red Abalone are mostly found in the rocky shore area. They eat seaweed, such as giant kelp. The Red Abalone's scientific name is

Haliotis Rufescens. The average abalone can live up to 45+ years. They are considered Gastropods a.k.a snails. The Red Abalone is not endangered.

The White Abalone is very similar to the Red. They are also found in the rocky shore area. The



Photo from marinebio.net

White Abalone eat the same food as the Red but prefer their food squishier. Different from the Red, the White Abalone are endangered. They are not extremely endangered, but the populations are low. The White (and Red) Abalone are both slow growing.

According to "The California Abalone Industry," in the year 1990, there were 371,534 Red Abalone, but there were zero White.

by Ryan

The Amazing Two Spotted Octopus

Don't you think that the octopus is amazing? They have eight tentacles with mouths under their tentacles. They use these mouths to eat. The two-spotted octopus can be found in rocky shores or kelp forests. They use their mouths to eat small crabs. The two-spotted octopus is born in eggs, and when it is ready the egg rips open. It changes color when it gets scared.

The two-spotted octopus can also be found at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium! They can be found in a tank in the back of the room. Everyone should go to the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and see this very special animal.

by Victoria J.

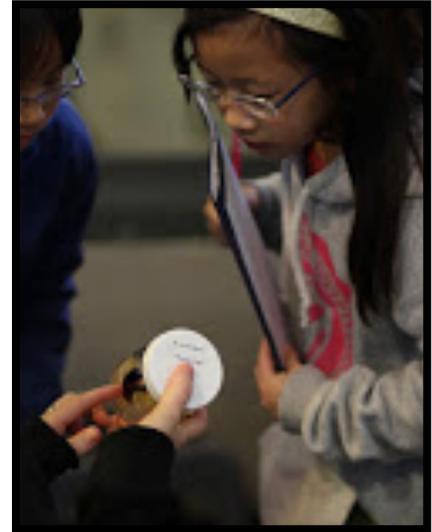


Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

An Octopus with Two Spots

What kind of octopus has two spots? The two-spotted octopus of course! It likes to be in small areas like shells. The two-spotted octopus eats crabs and hermit crabs. It eats crabs by using its eight tentacles to sneak up, bite into the crab, and suck out the juice. The species of octopus can be found in shades of yellow, white, and even brown spots. Its predators are eels, sharks, humans, and even some

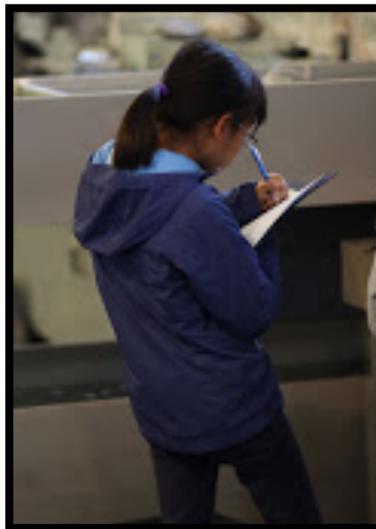


Photo by Kaitlan Tseng

fish! The two-spotted octopus gives birth with eggs. It can be found in the Pacific Ocean, either on the rocky shore or in the kelp forests. This species of octopus cannot breathe on land.

The two-spotted octopus is very interesting because it eats, looks, and lives in fascinating ways. The two-spotted octopus is amazing!

by Emily A.

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the LA County Board of Supervisors for
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