REEF RELIEF

REEF RELIEF VIRTUAL LESSON SERIES
MARINE SCIENCE FOR ALL INITIATIVE

MARINE MEGAFAUNA FOLLOW ALONG WORKSHEET

Complete this worksheet during the lesson.

1. What is megafauna?

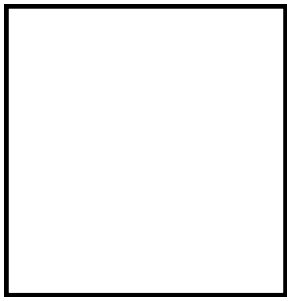
2. Which of the below are characteristics of a toothed whale? Check all that apply.

☐ Baleen	☐ One blowhole	☐ *Odontocetes*	☐ Filter feeders
☐ True teeth	☐ Two blowholes	☐ *Mysticetes*	☐ Often found in pods

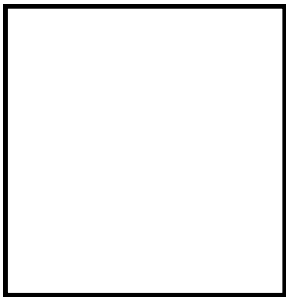
3. What are two features that are different between dolphins and porpoises?

4. What is the largest cetacean?

5. Draw the tail-shape of the manatee and dugong:



Manatee



Dugong

6. _____ have ear flaps and _____ front flippers that are good for walking and swimming. _____ have no ear flaps and _____ front flippers so they 'galumph' when they have to move on land and swim using their rear flippers.

7. List two features of seabirds:

8. A ‘mermaid purse’ is the egg casing of what animal?

9. List two features of seabirds:

10. Give an example of a seabird and one fun fact about it:

11. What are sea turtles?
    a. Mammals
    b. Fish
    c. Amphibians
    d. Reptiles

12. How many species of sea turtles are there in the whole world?

13. List and describe any two threats that megafauna face:

14. What are two ways we can help protect megafauna?

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Complete this worksheet during the lesson.

1. What is megafauna?

Animal large enough to see with the naked eye
Animal 2cm or larger

2. Which of the below are characteristics of a toothed whale? Check all that apply.

☐ Baleen	☒ One blowhole	☒ *Odontocetes*	☐ Filter feeders
☒ True teeth	☐ Two blowholes	☐ *Mysticetes*	☒ Often found in pods

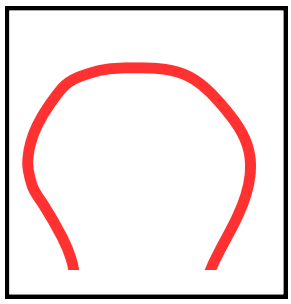
3. What are two features that are different between dolphins and porpoises?

- Dolphins are typically larger than porpoises
- Dolphins have clearly defined beaks/noses where porpoises have more round faces
- Dolphins have a more curved dorsal fin where porposes have a more triangle shaped dorsal fin
- Dolphins have cone shaped teeth where porpoises have spade shaped teeth

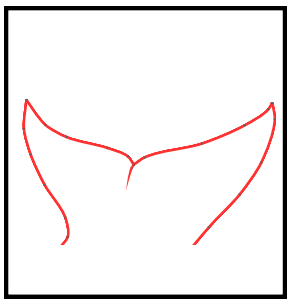
4. What is the largest cetacean?

Blue whale

5. Draw the tail-shape of the manatee and dugong:



Manatee



Dugong

6. Sea lions have ear flaps and large front flippers that are good for walking and swimming. seals have no ear flaps and small front flippers so they 'galumph' when they have to move on land and swim using their rear flippers.

7. List two features of seabirds:

- Thin skin and feathers
- Hollow bones
- Egg laying
- Long lived
- Waterproofed feathers
- Many species migrate
- Salt Glands

8. Give an example of a seabird and one fun fact about it:

11. What are sea turtles?
    a. Mammals
    b. Fish
    c. Amphibians
    d. Reptiles

12. How many species of sea turtles are there in the whole world?

7

13. List and describe any two threats that megafauna face:

- Marine debris
- Ingestion/entanglement
- Harmful fishing practices/bycatch/overfishing
- Pollution
- Kills food source (seagrass, prey)
- Oil spills
- Nutrient runoff
- Climate change
- Temperature changes cause loss of habitat
- Melting of sea ice affecting krill populations
- More frequent/stronger storms cause loss of habitat
- Boat strikes
- Prop scars
- Habitat Loss
- Coastal development
- Waterway dredging
- Removal of vegetation
- Noise pollution (cetaceans)
- Hunting for meat, fur, blubber, fins

14. What are two ways we can help protect megafauna?

- Support sustainable fishing
- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- Reduce carbon footprint
- Pick up trash
- Follow laws/regulations that have to do with animal safey/preservation
- Don’t use animal products
- Be a responsible boater
- Teach others what you know!