

Humpback Whales

Humpback whales are very large and can grow up to 19 metres long. They are famous for their magical songs which can be heard from over 20 miles away. Humpbacks are friendly creatures and are popular with whale watchers. Sadly, humpback whales are endangered but numbers have been growing in recent years and there are now 80,000 humpbacks alive today.

Fun Facts

- Another name of humpback whales is 'giant wings'.
- Humpbacks live for about 50 years although they have been known to live to almost 100!
- Humpback whales are air-breathing mammals and can hold their breath for up to 45 minutes!



Appearance

Humpback whales are strange creatures. They have a large, knobbly head, a black body and long fins. In fact, they have the longest fins of all marine mammals. Female humpbacks are larger than males and can weigh up to 36,000kg, which is almost the same weight as six elephants!

Life Cycle

Babies grow inside their mothers for 12 months and when the calves are born, they are about 6 metres in length. Humpback whales tend to live alone or in small groups called pods. Mothers and their calves stay together for up to one year. Humpback whales are found in oceans around the world. They feed in colder waters and then travel to warmer seas in the winter so that they can breed and give birth. They eat mostly small fish and they feed by swallowing large mouthfuls of water.

Behaviour

Humpbacks are famous for their playful behaviour. One of the most wonderful sights is when a humpback leaps out of the water and splashes down with its fins and tail. Male humpbacks sing songs that last for up to 20 minutes. Scientists are not sure why they sing but one idea is that they do it to attract female whales. Humpbacks have been seen playing with and protecting other kinds of sea creatures such as dolphins and even humans!

Reading Mission

30 mins

Children to read or be supported to read the text about Humpback Whales. **After, they can answer these questions. These can be verbal answers or they could be written down or typed. Suggested answers are below in red.**

1. How far away can the song of a humpback whale be heard from?
2. What is the colour of a humpback whale's body?
3. How large can a humpback whale grow to be?
4. Decide whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) Female humpbacks are larger than males.
 - b) Calves are about 12 meters in length when born.
 - c) Humpbacks feed in warm waters.
 - d) Humpback whales are friendly creatures.
5. How long do humpback whales sing a song for?
6. Why do you think another name for humpback whales is 'giant wings'?
7. How long can humpback whales hold their breath for?

Answers

1. 20 miles
2. Black
3. They can grow up to 19 meters long.
4.
 - a) Female humpbacks are larger than males. TRUE
 - b) Calves are about 12 meters in length when born. FALSE
 - c) Humpbacks feed in warm waters. FALSE
 - d) Humpback whales are friendly creatures. TRUE
5. 20 minutes
6. Humpback whales are also called 'giant wings' because they have long fins that look like wings.
7. 45 minutes

Writing Mission

30 mins

For today's writing mission I would like you to think of a game that you enjoy playing. This could be at school with your friends or something you play at home. Your mission is to write a set of instructions telling someone how to play your game.

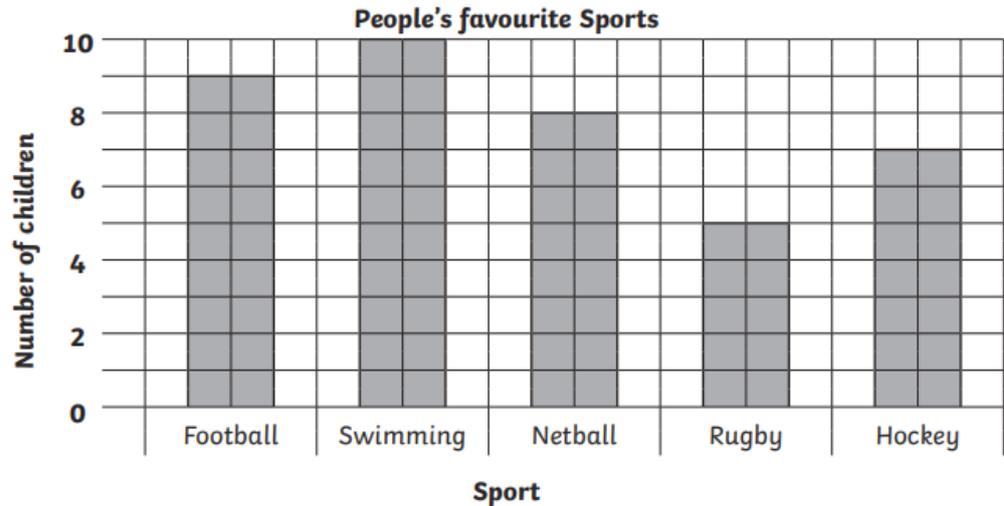
Imagine these are going to be read by someone who has never played before so you will need to make sure they are detailed.

When writing your instructions remember:

- Include a list of things that are needed to play the game.
- Use numbers to show the order.
- Write in short, clear sentences.
- Start your sentences with imperative (bossy) verbs. (E.g. Move the counter. Throw the ball)

Maths Mission
30 mins

In today's maths mission we will be looking at bar charts.
Look at the bar chart and then use it to answer the questions.



1. What information does the bar chart show?
2. How many people chose hockey?
3. Which sport is most popular?
4. Which sport is least popular?
5. How many more chose football as their favourite sport compared to rugby?
6. How many fewer people chose hockey as their favourite sport compared to swimming?
7. How many people were asked about their favourite sport in total?

Answers

1. People's favourite sports
2. 7
3. Swimming
4. Rugby
5. Football = 9 Rugby = 5
To find how many more, find the difference. $9 - 5 = \underline{4 \text{ more}}$
6. Hockey = 7 Swimming = 10
To find how many fewer, find the difference. $10 - 7 = \underline{3 \text{ fewer}}$
7. $9 + 10 + 8 + 5 + 7 = 39$

Topic Mission

Ideas for the week.

Choose activities based on what interests you.

Art and Design

Create an under the sea scene. You could use a shoebox to present your scene, create a back ground and place your sea creatures in front or even use an egg box.



Art

Corals are living creatures that live in oceans all over the world. Some types live alone. Many live in groups. When several different types of corals live together this forms a coral reef. The largest coral reef in the world is the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia.

As they grow corals form different patterns and shapes. They may look like feathers, fingers, branches or even a brain.

Use the photos and examples below to create your own coral reef landscape.





Science

Explore how water behaves by creating a wave in a bottle.

You will need:

- An empty plastic bottle
- Vegetable Oil
- Water
- Food colouring

Activity:

1. Wash a bottle and take off the label by soaking it in hot water.
2. Fill the bottle with 3/4 cup of water.
3. Add a few drops of food colouring.
4. Pour 1 cup of oil into the bottle.
5. Screw the cap on.
6. Roll the bottle on its side and let it settle for a few minutes.
7. The water will sink to the bottom and the oil will rise to the top.
8. Now tip the bottle back and forth and make some waves.

The waves will be bigger at one end of the bottle and smaller at the other.

What causes ocean waves?

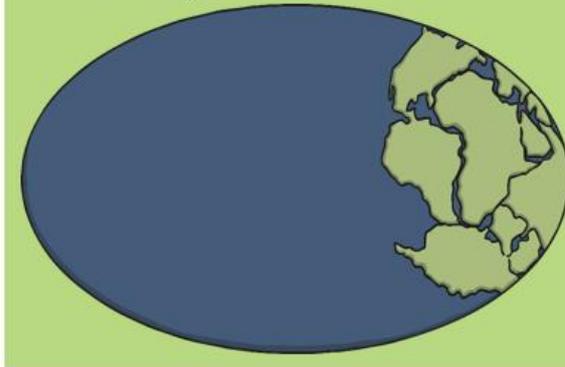
Obviously, waves are not caused by oil floating on water. However this ocean wave in a bottle activity is a good picture of the movement of ocean waves.

Ocean waves are created by energy moving through the ocean water. Most of the time, the energy comes from wind blowing on and disturbing the surface of the water. Other things cause ocean waves too such as the gravitational pull of the sun and the moon. This causes tidal waves or tides!

When you move the bottle, you're seeing energy move through the water to make waves, just like out in the ocean! Did you know if a wave doesn't have anything to stop it, it can travel far distances?

Geography- Find out about the world's seas and oceans

Oceans are large areas of salt water joined to each other but they are separated into five major sections. Oceans cover around 70% of the Earth's surface.



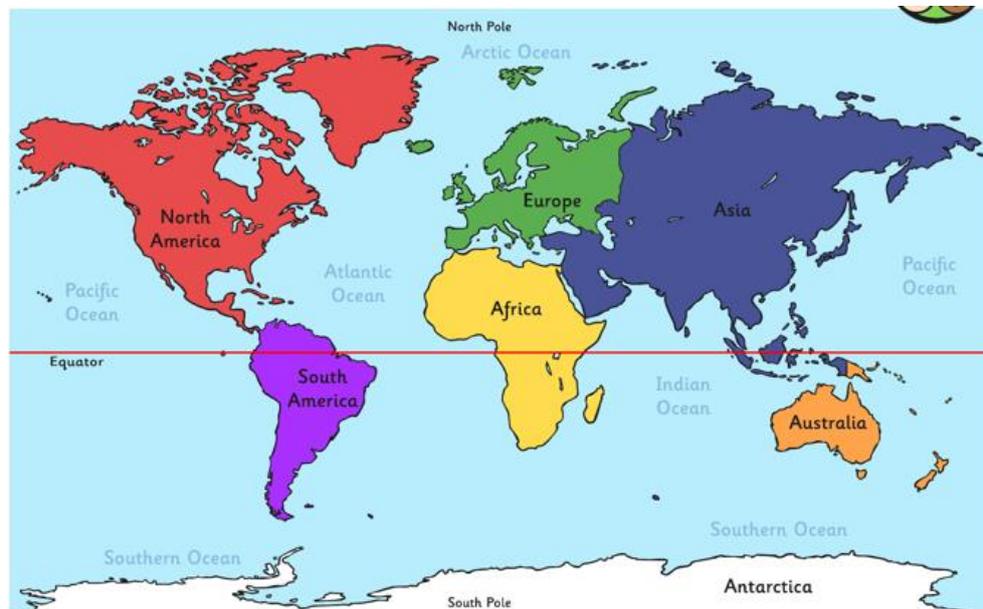
The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean.



Seas are smaller areas of water and are found where the land and water meet.



There are 5 oceans, the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern and Arctic. Can you spot them on the map?



You can learn more about the oceans on BBC Bitesize. Link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zmqwscw>

You might also enjoy learning the five oceans song on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6BE4VcYngQ>

Can you use the map and your own research to answer the following questions?
The answers can be found below.

1. How many oceans are there in the world?
2. Which is the largest ocean?
3. Which is the smallest ocean?
4. Which ocean surrounds the Antarctica?
5. Which ocean is the furthest North?
6. Which ocean can be found between North America and Africa?
7. Which ocean can be found between North America and Asia?

Answers:

1. 5
2. Pacific Ocean
3. Arctic Ocean
4. Southern Ocean
5. Arctic Ocean
6. Atlantic Ocean
7. Pacific Ocean

History

Find out about a famous explorer that travelled the oceans by ship. You can present what you have learnt however you like. This could be a poster, a leaflet or a fact file. You could even write in role as the explorer.

Below are some explorers you might want to find out about and some links to useful information.

- Christopher Columbus <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/ks2-christopher-columbus/z7j3hbk>
- Captain James Cook <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/captain-cook/>
- Ferdinand Magellan https://www.ducksters.com/biography/explorers/ferdinand_magellan.php