



December Homeschool Day

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My Dolphin Anatomy Guide

Label the parts of the dolphin below to match the felt dolphin that you labelled as a class.



One cool fact I learned about dolphins is.....

Dolphin Adaptations

What are the 5 Characteristics that make a dolphin a mammal?

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. .
5. .

Marine Mammals such as Dolphins have _____ that helps to keep them warm.

What is Blubber?

How did your hand feel in the water?

How did your "Blubber" hand feel in the water?

What do you use for insulation when it is cold?

Dive into Dolphins: Scavenger Hunt

Fill in the blank(s) and answer the questions. Look at signs, and ask staff questions!

1. As calves dolphins develop a _____.
2. Dolphins don't drink salt water. They get all of their hydration from _____.
3. How do dolphins sleep?

4. Why is a dolphins blowhole located on the top of its head?

5. The internal structure of the pectoral flippers are made out of _____, while the internal structure of the dorsal fin is made out of _____.
6. The average life span of a bottlenose dolphin in the ocean is _____.
The average life span of a bottlenose dolphin under human care is _____.

➤ *Infer! Why is the average life span of a bottlenose dolphin longer under human care than in the ocean?*

Dolphin Conservation

List three threats dolphins face in the ocean.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List three ways you can support dolphin conservation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



Animal Observation Project

Questions and Activities:

- Choose one animal at Marineland on which to do a physical and behavioral observation. You may pick any animal you'd like, but you must stick with that individual, so be sure you've identified a distinguishing characteristic about it that will help you keep it in view, even if it lives with a group of other animals that look just like it.

PHYSICAL OBSERVATION

- Draw your animal in the space below:



- Conclusions:
 - What distinguishing characteristic did you use to identify this animal?

 - What physical adaptations do you see on your animal that help it to survive in its environment? (Body shape? Coloration?)

- What do you think these adaptations help the animal to do? (Avoid predators, Catch prey?)

BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATION

- Observe your animal for three minutes. Fill out the following behavioral observation chart. Put a check mark next to the behavior every time you see it. If you see any behaviors other than the ones listed, please add them in the blank spaces provided:

<u>BEHAVIOR SEEN</u>	<u>MINUTE 1</u>	<u>MINUTE 2</u>	<u>MINUTE 3</u>
Eating			
Chasing			
Hiding			
Playing			
Fighting			
Sleeping			

- Conclusions:
 - What behavior did you see your animal do the most?

What behavior did you see your animal do the least?

What kind of conclusions can you make from your observations? (Keep in mind that your three minute observation does not represent a full day of the animal's life.)

Do you think their behavior is different depending on time of day?
Time of year? Weather?



Christmas Under the Sea

