















Marine Animal Word Search

1. Find the names of the eight animals in the photos. To help you identify them - see notes on the back.

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2. What do all these animals have in common?

- A. They are good swimmersB. They are all endangered speciesC. They all eat planktonD. They live in tropical waters



About the animals

- 1. This small oceanic bird is about the size of a swallow. They spend nearly all their time at sea. Even in the breeding season they only come ashore at night. They feed on small crustaceans (shrimp-like creatures) which they pick from the surface while fluttering low over the water.
- 2. This is the second largest fish species in the world. It can grow to a length of 11 m and a weight of 7 tonnes. They filter their food from the water while swimming along with their mouths wide open. A large one can filter as much as 1800 tonnes of seawater in just one hour!
- 3. This animal comes from the tropics, but it belongs to a group of animals that is found all over the world. They are related to jelly fish and sea anemones. Like them they have tentacles that can capture small prey and move it into their mouths. Although this one is soft, its hard relatives can build large reefs.
- 4. This is the largest animal ever known to have lived on Earth; it can weigh over 150 tonnes. Despite their huge size they feed almost entirely on zooplankton. Their favourite is 'krill', a tiny shrimp-like animal, which they filter from the sea with their huge baleen plates flat, flexible plates with frayed edges, made of keratin (like hair and nails).
- 5. This is a distant relative of the earthworm. They are sometimes called 'feather duster worms' because of the feathery fans they use to filter small particles from the water. Their fans are also used for breathing and to sort the particles they use to build their tubes. When it is disturbed the worm pulls the fans back into the tube.
- 6. Many people consider this animal a delicacy. It lives in shallow water on firm bottoms of mud, rocks, and muddy sand or gravel. To feed it draws the water in through a siphon, passes it over its gills, separates out the food, and 'coughs' out anything it doesn't want. A large one can filter up to 50 liters of seawater in a day.
- 7. This is a small pelagic fish found in huge schools. For centuries the fishery was important for coastal countries around the North Sea. The fish feed mainly on copepods and other tiny crustaceans. In turn they are eaten by larger fish, seals, and sea birds.
- 8. You may know this animals from small tins where they lie side by side in oil or brine, waiting to be eaten. While alive, these small, silvery fish swim together in large 'schools'. Like animal 7 they eat small crustaceans and larvae of other fish. They often form a large part of the diet of larger fish and bird such as pelicans.