CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Beluga Whale

Delphinapterus leucas

The beluga is the only whale that can turn its head. In every other cetacean the neck vertebrae are fused into a rigid block; in the beluga they are not, so it can nod and look sideways — an adaptati…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Monodontidae
Habitat: Arctic and sub-Arctic coastal waters and river estuaries
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Near Threatened
Lifespan: 35-50 years
Weight: 700–1,600 kg
Scientific name: Delphinapterus leucas

Did you know?

- Beluga whales can survive in freshwater for extended periods and are sometimes found swimming far up rivers.
- It is the only whale that can turn its head — its neck vertebrae are unfused, unlike every other cetacean. It can visibly change the shape of the fat…

What I learned

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