CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Harbor Seal

Phoca vitulina

Phoca vitulina is the most widely distributed pinniped in the northern hemisphere, and its hunting depends on an organ most people never think about: the whiskers. Harbour seal vibrissae are not smoo…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Phocidae
Habitat: Coastal waters, estuaries, and sheltered bays
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 25-35 years
Weight: 55-170 kg
Scientific name: Phoca vitulina

Did you know?

- Despite their clumsy appearance on land, harbor seals are incredibly agile swimmers, reaching speeds up to 19 km/h underwater.
- The wavy whisker geometry has been copied by engineers designing low-drag, low-noise sensors and even turbine blades. Harbour seals sleep underwater,…

What I learned

© Creature Atlas · www.creatureatlas.com · Free for classroom & personal use