CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Orca (Killer Whale)

Orcinus orca

Orcas, or killer whales (Orcinus orca), are the largest members of the dolphin family, Delphinidae, with adult males reaching lengths of up to 9 meters and weighing over 5,400 kilograms. These apex p…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Delphinidae
Habitat: Ocean
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Data Deficient (IUCN); some regional populations Endangered
Lifespan: 30–50 years (males), 50–90 years (females)
Weight: 3,000–6,000 kg
Scientific name: Orcinus orca

Did you know?

- Despite their name, killer whales are actually the largest species of dolphin, not whales.
- Orcas are known to employ a hunting technique called 'wave-washing,' where they create waves to knock seals off ice floes. Despite their common name,…

What I learned

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