

# Primary Worksheets: Bottlenose Dolphin

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Bottlenose dolphins are social and playful mammals that can swim at speeds of 22 miles per hour. They are the most common dolphin species that are found in warm water all over the world. They live in both shallow water close to shore and far out in deep dark waters.

They have sharp sense of hearing and has a special whistle that it can create. The whistle is used to identify who they are, just like a name! Dolphins produce high frequency clicks.

Every time they click, they can determine the shape, size, speed, distance, and location of an object by the sound that is rebounding off the object.

They are able to form friendships that can last decades but are facing many problems today.



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Even though dolphins swim in the water amongst other fishes, they are actually mammals! They breathe air just like we do. They give birth and nurse their babies with milk. When dolphins are first born, they actually have some hair! Like all mammals, dolphins are warm blooded.

Bottlenose dolphins like to eat smaller fish. They will often hunt together, herding fish into packed groups so they can be easily caught. Dolphins do share their food with their young. They do not chew their food despite having many teeth. They swallow their food whole! Dolphins get the water they need from the animals they eat rather than drinking the ocean water.

Dolphins travel in groups called pods. Some pods migrate and travel around the world, while others have a specific territory. Pods can group together to become a giant pod. It is possible for a giant pod to have more than 1000 dolphins in it!



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Bottlenose dolphins have few natural enemies. Only large sharks and larger dolphins can be natural predators to their calves. Dolphins can heal from attacks like a shark bite very quickly. Despite this, they suffer from a wide variety of diseases and parasites.

The biggest threat to bottlenose dolphins is from humans. Dolphins are hunted despite their meat being unsafe for consumption. They are hunted in great numbers in Japan and the Faroe Islands. They can get caught up in nets used for fishing, killing them by accident.

Loud noises underwater can cause great stress to dolphins, making them sick by forcing them to the surface too quickly to escape the noise. Ocean pollution has worsened over the years, resulting in less wild bottlenose dolphins.



# Primary Worksheets: Bottlenose Dolphin

**Answer the questions.**

What is a bottlenose dolphin?

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What makes them special?

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Why are they mammals?

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# Primary Worksheets: Bottlenose Dolphin

**Answer the questions.**

What do they like to eat?

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Why are they endangered?

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