

BLUE WHALE



Education Programs 2024-2025

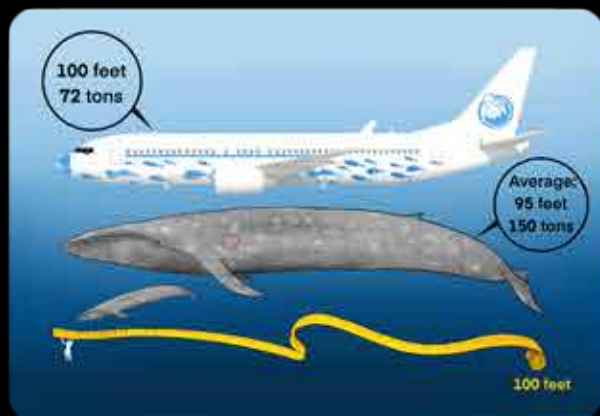
Scientific Name: *Balaenoptera musculus*
Classification:
 Phylum Chordata
 Subphylum Vertebrata
 Class Mammalia
 Order Artiodactyla
 Infraorder Cetacea

Life Span: 80 to 90 years
Range: Circumglobal
Status: Endangered

Fun Fact: They produce the loudest and lowest frequency vocalizations in the entire animal kingdom. Their calls can be heard across an ocean basin - over 3,000 miles away!



Size



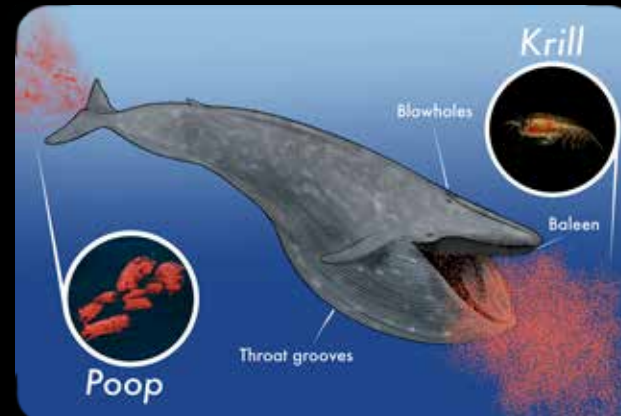
Blue whales are the largest animal that has ever existed! They reach up to 110 feet long and 270 tons. Their large heart is 5 feet tall; a human heart is 5 inches tall. A newborn calf is 25 feet long; how long were you when you were born? See how a blue whale compares in size to a small jetliner.

Coloration



The blue whale is a baleen whale with a long, slender muscular body. Although named for the turquoise-blue color seen just below the surface, they actually have a mottled light gray coloration. This mottling creates unique patterns that help scientists identify individual whales, just like your fingerprint!

Feeding



Blue whales feed on small shrimp-like animals called krill. They lunge towards large schools of krill with their mouth open and throat grooves expanded, then filter out the water through their baleen. They can eat over 6 tons of krill a day. Deep-feeding whale species act as 'ecosystem engineers' by eating at depth then pooping near the surface, which provides rich nutrients promoting phytoplankton growth.

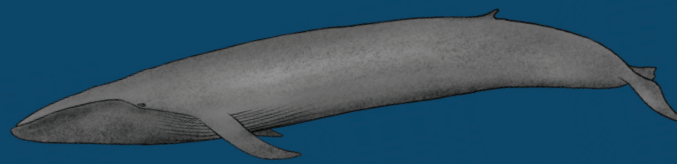
Whale Watching



That she blows! Spotting a blue whale's spout during a whale watching excursion is an awe-inspiring sight. The spout can tower up to 30 feet high and be visible from as far as 5 miles away. Observing these gentle giants in their natural habitat is truly an unforgettable experience. Join us on a whale watch trip!



Education Programs 2024-2025



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

For complete details, please visit <https://cma.recreation.parks.lacity.gov/programs/school-programs>

Learn About Marine Science with Wet Hands and Sandy Feet!

Tours

Guided Tours — Docent-led tours focusing on southern California marine life.

Details: June-March, Tuesday-Friday, 10am. 90-minute program. Fee: Free.*

Self-Guided Aquarium Visits — Explore the Aquarium on your own; reservations required.

Details: Year-round, Tuesday-Friday, 1-5pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11am-5pm. Fee: Free.*

Outdoor Programs

Spring Outdoor Classroom — Docent-led learning in the Cabrillo Beach Coastal Park.

Details: March-April (PreK-K), April-June (K-5), Tuesday-Friday, 10am. 90-minute program. No limit of students per program; no more than 1 adult per 5 students. Fee: Free.*

Explore the Shore — Learn by doing! Challenge your students to explore science concepts using the tools of a naturalist. Students engage in hands-on investigation of local habitats and marine organisms in our Coastal Park. Learn about life along the shore and our role in conservation.

Details: October-June, Fridays, 10am. 90-minute program. Limit 60 students per program; no more than 1 adult per 5 students. Fee: Free.*

Key to the Sea — This beach-based program encourages students to learn about watershed stewardship, coastal ecology and how we are all connected to the ocean. Teachers are required to attend a Key to the Sea workshop prior to their field trip.

For more information visit: www.healthebay.org/key2sea/

Details: October-June, Fridays, 10am. 90-minute program. Limit 60 students per program; no more than 1 adult per 5 students. Fee: Free.*

Sea Search

Marine Biology Workshops provide hands-on laboratory and field experiences that focus on a wide range of marine biology topics. In the laboratory, activities include the use of microscopes and observation of live marine animals and other specimens. Using scientific field tools, students will explore the flora and fauna of the natural habitats in the tidepools, salt marsh or sandy beach adjacent to the Aquarium. Human impacts and conservation issues are incorporated in all classes.

Details: October-June, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9am, 9:30am, or 10am. 2.5 hour program. Limit 45 students per program. Fee: \$350 for up to 35 students, \$10 for each additional student.

Ocean Outreach

Bringing the wonders of the ocean to your school! Students will be captivated and engaged through interactive talks, hands-on discovery, and specimen investigation. We can even bring live marine animals to your school! All our topics are tailored to specific grade and age levels, and designed to spark your students' curiosity and appreciation for the ocean.

Details: Year-round, Tuesday-Friday, 9:30am-4pm, up to 1-hr sessions with a maximum of four sessions per site per day. Limit 30 students per session. Fee: \$170 for the first session, \$70 for each additional session. After-school sessions (after 2:30pm), \$230 for the first session, \$90 for the second session. Travel range: schools within 60 miles of the Aquarium.

Whale Watching

Take your students to sea to experience whales, dolphins and sea lions in their natural habitat while enjoying a fun boat trip with an experienced guide. Our nutrient-rich waters may provide opportunities to see migrating gray whales, as well as humpback whales, fin whales, bottlenose dolphins, common dolphins, California sea lions, sea birds, and other marine life. Cabrillo Whalewatch volunteer naturalists can provide a live or virtual pre-trip classroom presentation to prepare your students for all that may be seen during the at-sea tour.

Details: Year-round, two- to three-hour boat trips departing from various landings. Live or virtual presentation by an experienced naturalist prior to your trip. Call 310-548-7770 to book this program.

*CMA wants a clean LA!

Your students can help us with this goal through in-class activities or service-learning projects in support of our free programs. Information will be provided upon registration.

Program Reservations

To make reservations for our programs, please visit our website:

www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org

click on Programs and Events, then School Programs.

For more information call 310-548-7562, Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is dedicated to promoting appreciation, knowledge, and conservation of the rich marine life of Southern California.

Through our many live and interpretive exhibits, seawater laboratories and surrounding seashore habitats, your students have the opportunity to explore the wonders of our neighboring ocean.

Located on the beach in San Pedro, our beautiful Cabrillo Coastal Park includes grassy picnic areas, tidepools, a salt marsh, sandy beaches and a fishing pier, all joined by accessible trails for you and your class to enjoy.

Our programs are LAUSD Board of Education approved and are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards.

	PreK min. age 4 yrs.	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	High School	Adults	Availability	Duration	Cost
Aquarium Programs															
Tours — Discover the Aquarium															
Guided Tours		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jun-Mar	90 min.	Free*
Self-Guided Aquarium Visits	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Year-round	90 min.	Free*
Outdoor Programs — Hands-on learning & coastal experience															
Spring Outdoor Classroom	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mar-Jun	90 min.	Free*
Explore the Shore		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	90 min.	Free*
Key to the Sea			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	90 min.	Free*
Sea Search — Marine biology workshops															
What Lives on the Sandy Beach		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Life on the Rocky Shores		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Salt Marsh and Plankton					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Habitat Comparison		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Ichthyology						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Ocean Outreach — Bringing the ocean to you															
The Adventures of C. Weed the Snail Puppet Show	•												Jun-Feb	50 min.	Fee-based
At Home in the Sea		•	•										Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
The Greatest Fish Story Ever Told!		•	•	•	•	•							Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Treasures in the Tidepool				•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Thar She Blows! A Whale of a Lesson				•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Shark! It's OK to Go into the Water				•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Ocean Drifters: What is Plankton Anyway?				•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
The Art of Fish Printing: Gyotaku in the Classroom				•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Ten Arms and an Attitude: A Squid Dissection				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
No Guts, No Glory: A Fish Dissection				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Whale Watching — See whales and dolphins in the wild															
Boat Trip	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Year-round	2-3 hrs.	Fee-based
Presentations: Live or Virtual	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Year-round	Up to 1 hr.	Free

Workshops, Service-Learning and Community Service

We offer Educator Workshops throughout the year. Opportunities are also available to help students fulfill academic service hour requirements. Do you know a Middle School or High School student interested in Marine Science Research? Visit our website to learn more about our Young Scientists Program.

Schedule your program today as spaces are limited!
Please visit our website for details or call 310-548-7562.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a trusted resource that inspires exploration, respect and conservation of Southern California marine

