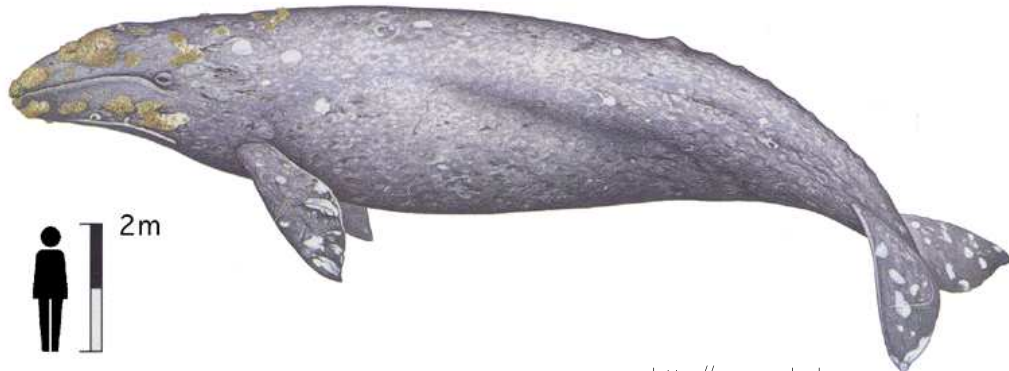


The Gray Whale

Eschrichtius robustus



<http://www.whales.org.au>

The Gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) is one of the oldest mammal species on earth. This mammal is a baleen whalen. Baleen is made of keratin, it is like a thick comb of long fine hairs. Grey Whales specifically dive to the bottom of the sea floor, filtering mud and water through the baleen, trapping plankton and krill. This process is called bottom feeding. All baleen whales have two blowholes. This enables them to breathe in and take in massive amounts of water simultaneously.

Gray Whales have the longest migration of any mammal. Their 12,000 miles journey begins in the warm lagoons in Baja, Mexico in the winter and ends in the frigid waters of the Arctic during the summer. Every year this journey is taken in order to birth their calves in the warm and protected lagoons in Baja, Mexico . They feed in the summer in the food abundant waters of the Arctic.



<https://www.oceanoutfitters.bc.ca/blog/gray-whales-a-magnificent-journey>



The Gray Whale

Read the information on the previous worksheet, watch the video Gray Whale Migration on Oceantoday.noaa.gov/graywhalemigration/ then answer the questions below.

1. How long is the grey whale migration?
2. In what months are the gray whales in the Arctic?
3. Why do the grey whales stay in the arctic?
4. Where do the Grey Whales go in the Winter?
5. What happens in the lagoons of Baja, Mexico?
6. What is Baleen?
7. Why was the endangered species act of 1974 enacted?
8. Can you label the body parts of a whale?

