



Dear Educator,

This file offers views of some of the worksheets in our “Dolphins” thematic unit. The cover for an eWorkbook is shown followed by the preview pages.

The “Dolphins” unit offers [14 pages](#).

Locate many more eWorkbooks here.

[iShopToday.com](http://iShopToday.com)

Free worksheets, teacher tools, and more can be found here.

[SchoolExpress.com](http://SchoolExpress.com)

# Dolphins





# Dolphins

Dolphins are members of the whale family and unlike fish, must breathe air. Although dolphins can swim deep in the ocean, they must come to the surface to breathe.

Dolphins have a blowhole on top of their heads. When dolphins surface, the blowhole opens and takes in air. The blowhole closes when dolphins go under water.

Some dolphins can hold their breath for seven minutes or more when diving. Although dolphins usually live in shallow water, some dolphins have been trained to dive to 2000 feet before resurfacing.

Most dolphins have small slender bodies that are shaped like torpedos. The smaller body helps the dolphins swim faster so they can catch their prey.

Dolphins have no outside ears. There are pin-sized holes behind the eyes that lead to the inner ear. Most dolphins have a dorsal fin along the back and a special tail with two finlike flukes.



## *Dolphin Facts*

Dolphin fins are called flukes.

**Dolphins are not fish.**

The nostril of a dolphin is called a blowhole.

**Dolphins are closely related to whales.**

*The dolphins you know best are the bottlenosed dolphins.*

Dolphins use high-pitched sounds to signal one another.





# Dolphins

**Dolphins make many kinds of whistling and grunting noises.  
This is kind of a dolphin talk.**

Mothers call their babies by whistling and dolphins whistle to each other to keep in touch. Many scientists are studying these noises in hopes of understanding their language.

Scientists are also studying the dolphin's unique "sonar system" or echo principle. Dolphins give out a series of rapid clicks as they swim and listen for returning clicks that bounce off objects. They can tell by the echoes, without even seeing how near an object is, its shape, and how big it is. A dolphin can make as many as a hundred clicks per second. A dolphin can locate an object as small as a BB to knowing the difference between a piece of wood and a piece of steel. A dolphin sees with its ears the same as we do with our eyes.



Look up the words below in a dictionary or on the Internet.  
Write the definitions beside each word.

1. echo \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. sonar \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Dolphins

## CRISS CROSS

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?  
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

spotted  
tropical

swim  
herds

acrobatic  
fin

social  
flukes

