

# Inquiry - Discovery - Close

## Little Truff and the Whales by Ann Russell

# Meet the Magnificent Humpback Whale



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### What are humpback whales?

Humpback whales are marine mammals who live in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ around the world. They belong to the whale family which includes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### How the humpback got its name:

It's from the \_\_\_\_\_ on the hump of the whale's back which is very noticeable as the humpback



### How to recognise a humpback whale:

- The adult female humpback whale is \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ long while the male is \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_. The female weighs about \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_.
- The humpback has the longest fins of all the whales. Both its pectoral fins are at 1/3rd of its length at \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ each.
- \_\_\_\_\_ give a knobbly look to the head's pointed part or \_\_\_\_\_.

**The humpback is a baleen whale.** It has \_\_\_\_\_.

- Instead it has a \_\_\_\_\_ which looks like a growing a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ from the gums on its upper jaw.
- It is made of \_\_\_\_\_ which is also found in people's \_\_\_\_\_.
- When a baleen whale swallows \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_, the long, ventral pleats expand over its \_\_\_\_\_.

- The baleen acts as a  . It keeps the krill, small fish and plankton in its mouth when the whale  unwanted water out with its  .
- for food occurs when the humpbacks  to bring their prey together then swim up the centre and eat them.
- Humpbacks have two  that give a bushy  of mist in the air when their warm breath condenses in the cold atmosphere. (*Think – this happens when warm breath condenses on a cold mirror or window.*)
- A whale is  when it jumps high into the air and slaps down on its side or drops back first into the water.
- The male humpback is famous for singing a  -  . It is thought to be part of the whale's mating ritual.

**Use these words to fill the spaces.** 5 metres/16.4 feet, 12 metres/39 feet, 15 metres/49 feet, 36,000kg/36 tons, arches and dives, baleen plate, Barnacles, belly, breaching, breathe a circle of bubbles, Bubble netting, cloud or blow, dolphins, dorsal fin, fine-toothed comb, food-rich water, keratin, nails and hair, no teeth, oceans, porpoises, pushes, rostrum, seas, sieve, tongue, blowholes, whale song.

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