

**SPECIAL TAKE-ALONG GUIDE**  
for your next Museum visit



# SUMMERTIME is *Family Time*

**at the New Bedford Whaling Museum**



## There are more reasons than ever to visit the Museum this summer!



- Explore our new Casa dos Botes Discovery Center, a family-friendly interactive zone where you can climb aboard an authentic Azorean whaleboat; set the topsails and steer the boat; test your strength by lifting a cask of oil; spot a whale from the topmast; and learn to navigate the high seas.
- Go below deck to see the new forecastle, or fo'c'sle, where sailors lived and slept.
- Climb aboard the beloved *Lagoda* – at 89 feet in length, she's the largest ship model in the world, and we're celebrating her 100th anniversary this year.
- Discover why New Bedford is known as "The City that Lit the World."
- Whaleships sailed the seven seas. Where did their voyages take them? Who did they meet and what wondrous sights did they see? Find out!
- Find out how scientists today are using old-time whaling stories and logbooks to think about our environment and whale conservation.



**Get ready for your visit with this fun activity book. Bring it along to help you to get the most from your Museum visit. We look forward to seeing you aboard!**



**DISCOVER EXPLORE LEARN**

For up-to-date calendar listings visit [www.whalingmuseum.org](http://www.whalingmuseum.org)



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## **Who's Who in the World of Whales?**

All of these whales, dolphins and porpoises live off the coast of New Bedford. Can you find any of them in the Museum? When you find one, draw a line from the animal's name to its picture.

**Draw your own below!**

**Humpback Whale**



**Fin Whale**



**Minke Whale**



**North Atlantic  
Right Whale**



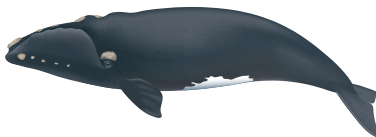
**Common Dolphin**



**Sperm Whale**



**Atlantic  
White-Sided Dolphin**



**Harbor Porpoise**





## Fact or Whale of a Story?

Whales are members of the cetacean family (whales, porpoises and dolphins.) Can you tell fact from fiction? Test your knowledge and see what you know about these gentle giants of the deep. (Answers on page 22.)

- 1.** Copepods, the preferred food of right whales and bowhead whales, are similar in size to a sesame seed.
- 2.** Whales hunt people.
- 3.** The design of the character Sheldon J. Plankton from the *Spongebob Squarepants* show, is based on a copepod.
- 4.** The gray whale has a very long migration, more than 10,000 miles each year.
- 5.** All whales have two lungs.
- 6.** Whales lay eggs.
- 7.** The global whale watching industry is worth more than \$2.1 billion annually.
- 8.** Up to a third of the whale's oil is contained in its bones.
- 9.** Whales cannot survive cold water.
- 10.** The oldest confirmed whale was a bowhead that lived to be 211.
- 11.** Many whales are toothless. They use plates of comb-like fiber called baleen to filter small crustaceans and other creatures from the water.
- 12.** A baby whale is called a calf.
- 13.** When whalers were shipwrecked, they would take refuge in the mouth of a whale.
- 14.** Whales form groups to look after calves and feed together.
- 15.** Some species of whale exist in both northern and southern hemispheres. Individuals of a species in one hemisphere never meet or breed with others of that same species that live in the other hemisphere.
- 16.** Whales love to sing!
- 17.** The blue whale is the largest animal ever to have lived on Earth - larger than the giant dinosaurs!
- 18.** The tongue of a blue whale can weigh as much as an elephant and an entire football team could stand on it!
- 19.** The heart of a blue whale is about the size of a VW Beetle car and weighs up to 1000 pounds.
- 20.** Whale spines and tails move left to right.
- 21.** Blue whales are pregnant for 12 months.
- 22.** Adult sperm whales are champion divers and can stay underwater for almost two hours and dive to depths of one mile or more!
- 23.** Sperm whales eat squid, which can live very deep in the ocean, so sperm whales have to dive down into the deepest parts of the sea to catch them.
- 24.** The male narwhal has two teeth. The left one pierces the animal's lip and can grow to an incredible 10 feet.
- 25.** Whales have gills like fish.
- 26.** Beluga whales are called the "canaries of the sea" because they make sounds like the little yellow birds.
- 27.** Blue whales' calls reach levels up to 188 decibels and can be heard hundreds of miles away. The blue whale is louder than a jet, which reaches only 140 decibels. Sounds over 120-130 decibels are painful to human ears.
- 28.** In its lifetime – that's about 40 years – a gray whale travels a distance that is equivalent to going to the moon and back!
- 29.** Whale sharks are half whale and half shark.



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## Hunt for Facts! Whale-watching in the galleries

As you walk through the Museum's galleries, think about these questions. Can you find the answers?

### Jacobs Family Gallery

**Parent/Guardian:** Ask your child why the Museum chooses to exhibit these whales. Why are they important for people to see?

1. Which three whale species are hanging in this gallery?
2. Which one is the longest? How long is it?
3. What do these whales all have in common?

### Wood Building: *From Pursuit to Preservation: The History of Human Interaction with Whales*

**Parent/Guardian:** Whales are mammals and their skeleton structure looks similar to humans. Encourage your child to find several similarities and differences.

1. How many teeth does our sperm whale have?
2. What parts of the sperm whale's bones reminds you of human bones?

### Gratia Houghton Rinehart Gallery: *Energy and Enterprise: Industry and the City of New Bedford*

**Parent/Guardian:** This gallery details the end of whaling and the investment in textiles and other industries. Encourage your child to explore why so many mills opened in New Bedford. What made New Bedford a good place to build a mill?

1. Find the employee clock and use a time card to punch in.
2. Find New Bedford Whaling Museum on the big map of New Bedford. (Hint: Located on the corner of William and Water Streets)

### Scrimshaw Gallery: *Scrimshaw: Shipboard Art of the Whalers*

**Parent/Guardian:** Ask your child what themes/subjects sailors drew on scrimshaw. Why were these themes/subjects important to them?

1. What is scrimshaw?
2. Can you find the Ostrich egg
3. What is your favorite piece in this gallery?

### Bourne Building: *Go a whaling I Must : Life Aboard a New Bedford Whaling Vessel*

**Parent/Guardian:** Encourage your child to think about life at sea. Who went whaling? What did whalers eat? How did they survive for 5 or more years at sea? Why did they go?

1. Why did Emily Bourne choose to build a model of the whaleship *Lagoda*, instead of one of the other ships in her father's fleet?
2. Find the Gamming Chair. What was it used for?
3. Smell the different types of Whale Oil. Which one was more valuable and easiest to sell?
4. Find the pink, blue, and white whale boat model. What type of boat is the basis for this model?

### Bourne Mezzanine: *Voyage Around the World*

**Parent/Guardian:** Whaling was an international business and involved many parts of the world. Cape Verdean and Azorean whalers were skilled and sought after by New Bedford captains. Ask your child why so many Cape Verdeans and Azoreans ended up sailing on New Bedford whalers? What attracted many of them to stay in America?

1. What type of game board is on display in the Cabo Verde section? Do you know how to play?
2. Look out through the telescope in the Vigia. What did Azoreans look for?

### Well done!

**Now go to the brand new Casa dos Botes Discovery Center for more fun!**

Answers: Fact or Whale of a Story?

FACTS: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28

Let's set the record straight on all the rest:

2. The diameter of the throat of most whales is too narrow to eat a human. On rare occasions, sperm whales have been documented to swallow humans when provoked. .
6. Whales give birth to live young.
9. Whales feed in Arctic waters. Their blubber protects them from the cold.
13. There are no known stories of whales aiding mariners in this way.
20. Whales have spines like humans and their tails move up and down, unlike a fish that moves from left to right.
29. The name "whale shark" comes from the fish's size, being as large as some species of whales and also that it is a filter feeder like baleen whales.



## DISCOVER EXPLORE LEARN

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