

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

The Same or Different?

Dolphins and porpoises are alike in many ways. These two sea mammals are related to the whale family and often get mistaken for each other. Some people think dolphins and porpoises are the same, but they are not. Here is some information to tell you more about these beautiful sea creatures.



Dolphins

Both dolphins and porpoises have lungs and breathe air. It is more common to see a dolphin than a porpoise. Both like to travel with their family groups, called pods.

1 What is the main idea in the first paragraph? Tick **one** box.

Dolphins and porpoises
are the same as whales.

☐

Dolphins and porpoises
are alike in many ways.

☐

Dolphins and porpoises
are beautiful.

☐

Dolphins and porpoises
are the same.

☐

2 In the sentence below, draw a circle around the noun, that can be replaced by the word 'creatures'.

These two sea mammals are related to the whale family and often get mistaken for each other.

3 Is the statement below fact or opinion? Tick **one** box.

I think dolphins and porpoises are beautiful.

Fact

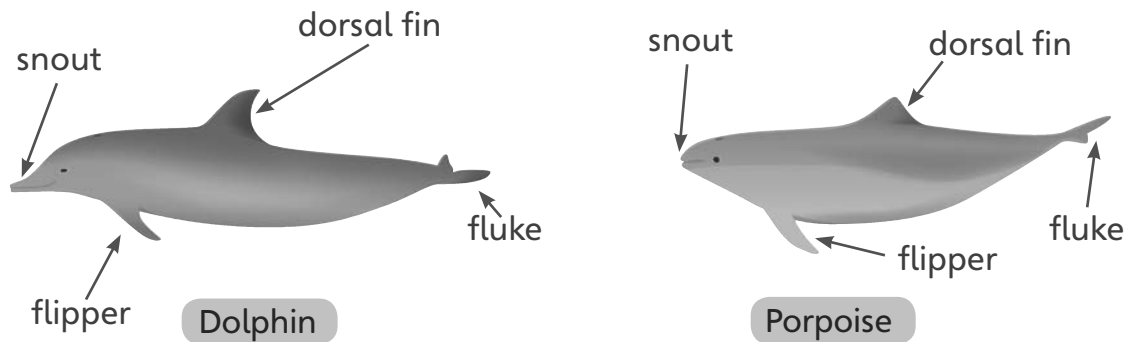
☐

Opinion

☐

Dolphins are playful and might be seen swimming near boats. Porpoises are rather shy creatures. It is rare to see them unless they are coming to the surface to take a breath.

Bodies



Most dolphins have a long, slender body shape. Some grow to be over 9 metres in length. Porpoises have a smaller, plumper shape. Few porpoises grow to be more than 2 metres long.

Snouts

The snouts of dolphins and porpoises are quite different. Most dolphins have a pointed snout that looks much like a bird's beak. Porpoises have a blunt snout.

Teeth

Both dolphins and porpoises have teeth. Dolphins have sharp, pointed teeth. Porpoises have teeth that are rounder, like a shovel.

Fins

A dolphin's dorsal fin, on its back, is large and has a hooked shape. A porpoise's dorsal fin is shaped more like a triangle. And one kind of porpoise has no dorsal fin at all! It is called a finless porpoise.

Dolphins and porpoises face two dangers in the ocean. Fishing nets can trap and drown them. Pollution can make them sick and die. It is important to keep the oceans safe for dolphins and porpoises.

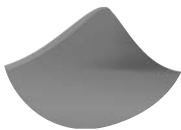
4 Where on a porpoise would you find the fluke?

5 Write the words in the order they would be found in a dictionary.

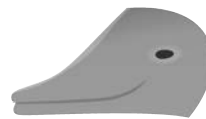
Pod Dorsal Snout Hooked

6 Write **two** ways in which the bodies of dolphins and porpoises are different.

7 Which creature do these body parts belong to? Complete the label with each body part.



Dorsal fin of the



Snout of the

8 Why did the author put diagrams into the text? Tick **one** box.

To make the text seem longer

☐

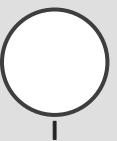
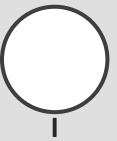
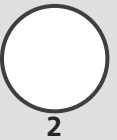
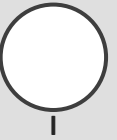
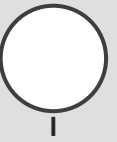
To tell you what each part of the dolphin and porpoise's bodies are called

☐

So you know what kind of creature a dolphin or a porpoise is

☐

To explain what 'sea mammal' means

☐

9

A heading can be used to explain the main idea of a paragraph. Write a heading for the last paragraph on page 2.

10

Use information in the text to fill in the gaps in this chart.

| | Dolphin | Porpoise |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Name of family group | Pod | |
| Shape of snout | | Blunt |
| Shape of teeth | Sharp and pointed | |

For teacher use

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Your mark | _____ out of 12 |
| What went well | |
| How to improve | |