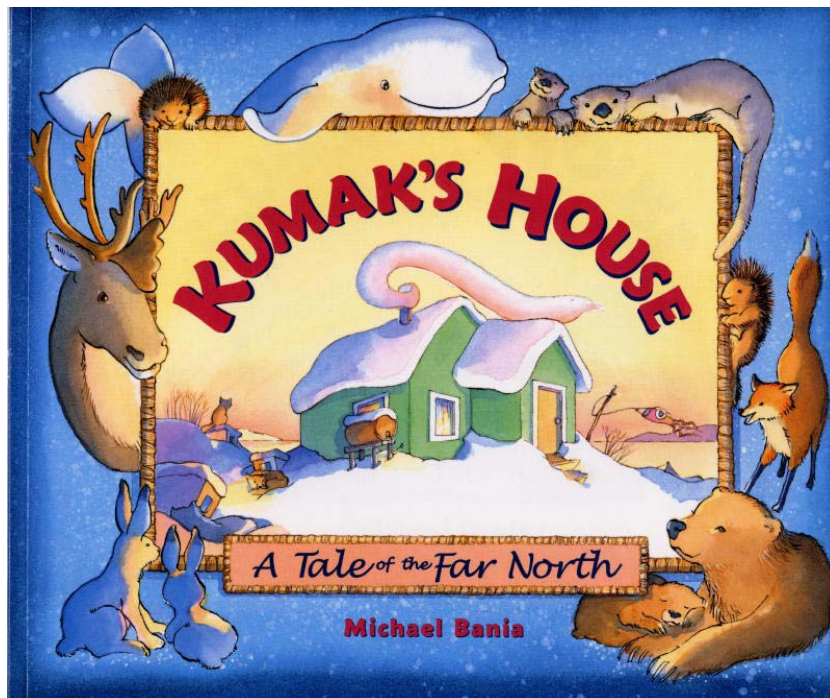


Books in the Home Program



Kumak's House: A Tale of the Far North

by
Michael Bania

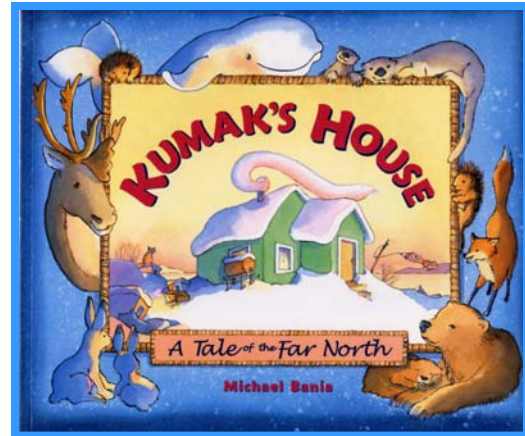
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Copies of *Kumak's House*

If you would like to buy more copies of the book *Kumak's House*, you can contact your local bookstore.



The Book Cellar (867) 920-2220

Yellowknife 1-800-944-6029

Pages (867) 874-3331

Hay River

Boreal Bookstore (867) 777-3748

Inuvik

North of 60 Books (867) 872-2606

Fort Smith



What You Will Need for This Session

- A copy of *Kumak's House* for each family in the program
- A journal for parents
- Copies of the *Traditional vs. Present Ways of Learning* handout
- Copies of the *Activities to Do at Home with Your Children* handout
- Copies of the *Literacy Action Plan* handout
- Craft materials—crayons, glue, scissors, paper, etc.
- *Kumak's House* activities in this kit
 - ★ Unscramble
 - ★ Arctic Animal Memory Game
 - ★ Where I Live
 - ★ Caribou Fact Sheet
 - ★ My Whale Book
 - ★ Origami Whale
 - ★ One Cold Snowy Morning
 - ★ The Seagull and the Whale
 - ★ Animal Matching Game
 - ★ The Letter *Ww*

Snack of the Week— Taco Dip

500 ml cottage cheese
250 ml cream cheese
1 package of Taco seasoning
½ cup of grated cheese
½ cup of salsa
Cut up veggies—lettuce, tomatoes, green pepper, green onions, olives.

Warm the cream cheese a little. Then mix the first 3 things together. Spread on the bottom of a casserole dish. Spread salsa. Put veggies on top and sprinkle with grated cheese. Serve with tortilla or corn chips.



Session Overview

Introductions

- **Warm Up Activity**—Do a warm up activity with participants. There are instructions for a *Twenty Questions* game included in this kit (see p. 6).
- **Expectations**—Ask parents what their expectations of the evening are. Flipchart the responses and then try to meet those expectations.
- **Group Agreements**— Review the Group Agreements.

Group Brainstorm & Discussion

- Review what happened during the week
 - What kinds of literacy activities did you do at home last week?
 - Did you follow your action plan?
 - How did it go?
- Brainstorm with parents how children learn.
 - Give out the *Traditional vs. Present* handout. Have participants brainstorm how people learned traditionally and how they learn now.
 - Have parents work in small groups to fill in the handout and then report back to the larger group.
 - Make sure you record all the information on a flipchart.
 - Talk about the differences and why there have been so many changes.

Tip of the Week— Nutritious Snacks

It is important to have a good nutritious snack for the families that attend your family literacy program.

Snacks with fruit, veggies, cheese, brown bread and crackers and yogurt are especially good. Juice and water make good drinks.

Try to avoid food with too much sugar and/or fat.



***Kumak's House* by Michael Bania**

- Introduce the book.
- Read the book together as a group.
- Discuss the book as a group.
- Brainstorm activities related to this book that parents can do at home with their children.
- Make an activity related to the story that families can use at home.
- Give out handouts related to the book and review the activities together. Make sure you go over each activity and show parents how to do them.

Adult Writing

- Have parents review the weekly Literacy Action Plan for next week.
- Have parents write down one thing in their journals that they learned this evening and then share it with the group, if they want to.

Wrap Up

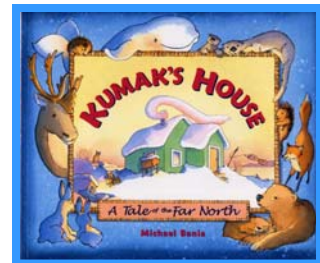
- Ask the participants for feedback on the session: “What did you like about the session? What did you not like?”

Story Time

- Have children come back from their reading circle to spend time reading with their parents.
- Gather everyone together and read one more story or teach the poems to everyone.

Nutritional Snack

- Take a break for a nutritional snack and drinks.





Twenty Questions



1. Choose any item that people might be familiar with. For example, you might choose a politician, or a snowmobile, or banana, or lynx.
2. Participants then have to try to guess the item, but can ask only questions with “Yes” or “No” or “I don’t know” answers. For example, “Is it a person?” “Is the person male or female?” “Does he live in Canada?” “Does he live in the Northwest Territories?” “Is he a politician?” “Is he . . . (someone’s name) ?” Etc.
3. The game is over if twenty questions have been asked and no one has guessed the right answer.
4. If someone guesses the right answer, that person can choose the next item and answer the questions.
5. You might also play this as a vocabulary game in an Aboriginal language.



Traditional vs. Present Ways of Learning

	Traditional	Present
Who is responsible for teaching?		
How do they teach?		
When do they educate?		
What is taught?		



Activities to Do at Home with Your Children

★ Allow your children to help you in the house. They can help set the table, fold the laundry, sweep the floor, etc.

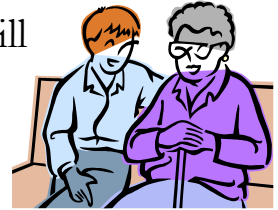
★ Let your child pick out his own clothes today.



★ Ask your child what his favourite animal is. Make up a story with the animal and your child in it.

★ Invite one of your child's friends over. Make a snack together.

★ Visit an elder together. Take a gift, and perhaps she will tell you a story about when she was young.



★ Teach your children a new word each day. Help them to use it in a sentence.

★ At the dinner table, have each member of the family talk about something nice that happened to them today.

These are all great family literacy activities that you can do with your children!



Literacy Action Plan: *Kumak's House*

Monday

- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ complete - Where I Live sheet together
- ___ children work on their Whale Book

Tuesday

- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ read the fact sheets and answer the questions
- ___ do a craft together



Wednesday

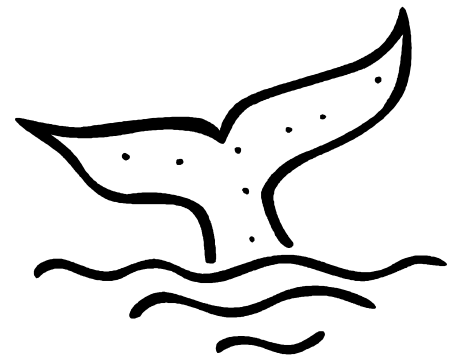
- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ children work on their Whale Book
- ___ talk at the supper table about school

Thursday

- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ read the poem together
- ___ tell stories before bedtime

Friday

- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ write a story about your family
- ___ illustrate your story



Saturday

- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ children work on Whale Book
- ___ make a shopping list together

Sunday

- ___ read together for 15 minutes
- ___ go for a walk together and see if you can see any wildlife
- ___ draw pictures of your walk together



Unscramble!

Unscramble the letters below to make the names of Arctic animals:

ekilrl hwlac	
opral areb	
npfufi	
wruals	
smoeo	
ales	
wveorinle	
sywon olw	
sown ogeos	
gnrlandee khars	

Answers: killer whale, polar bear, puffin, walrus, moose, seal, wolverine, snowy owl, snow goose, Greenland shark



Where I live

Work on this activity together. If your children cannot write yet – write in their answers.

The house or apartment I live in . . .



My house has _____ bedrooms.

I live with my _____.

My favourite place in the house is _____.

The community I live in ...



I live in _____.

The school or pre-school I attend is _____.

My community has lots of _____.

I think my community is great because _____.

The territory I live in . . .

I live in the territory of _____.

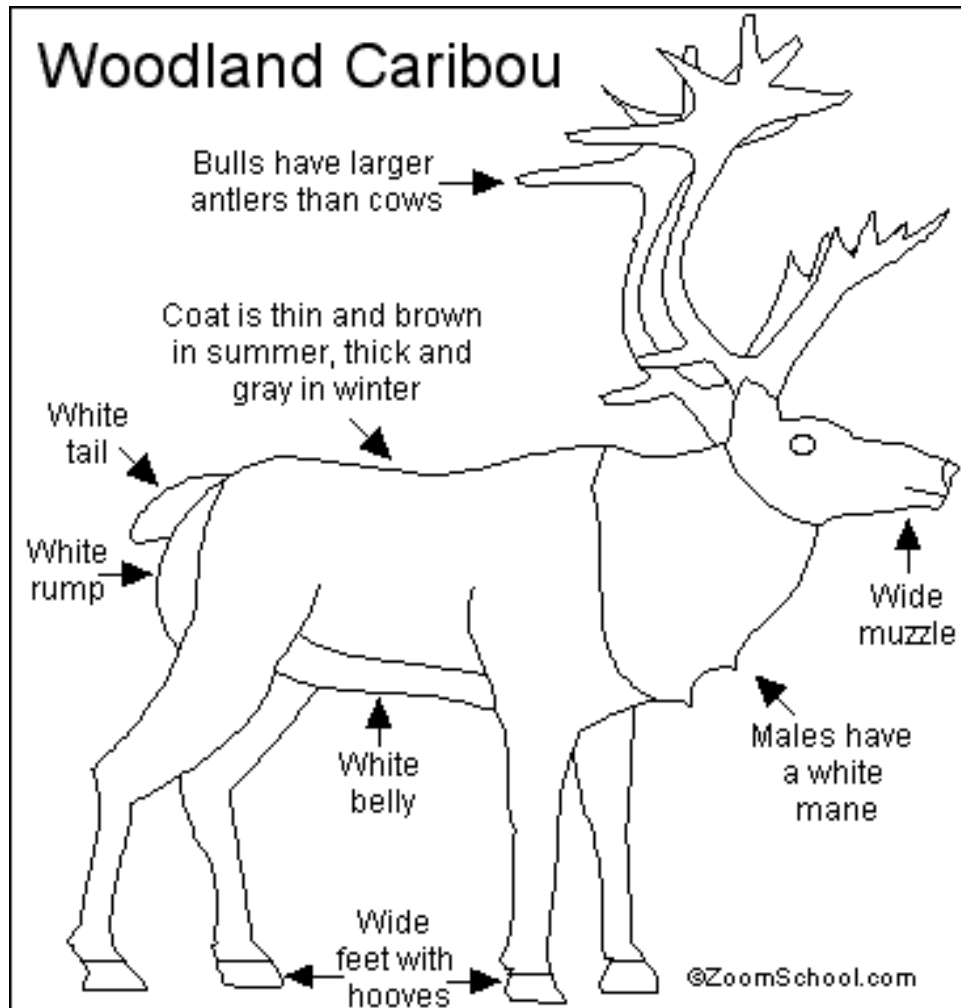
The capital of my territory is _____.

The abbreviation for my territory is _____.

The territorial bird is _____.

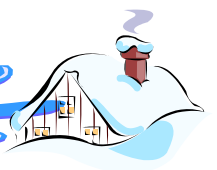


Caribou Fact Sheet



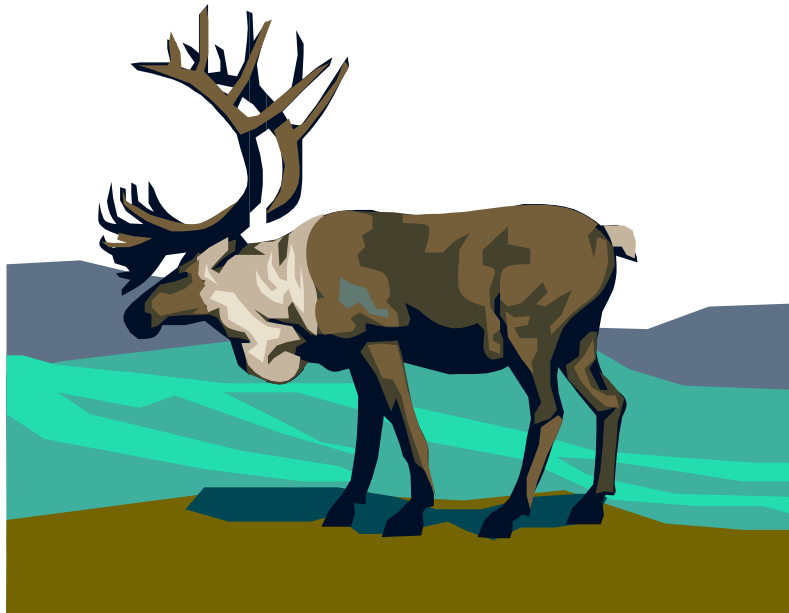
The caribou is a member of the deer family and is closely related to reindeer. Deer are found in the tundra, forests, and mountains.

Caribou migrate in huge herds across the tundra, traveling over 800 miles (1290 km) each year. They have a life span of about 15 years.



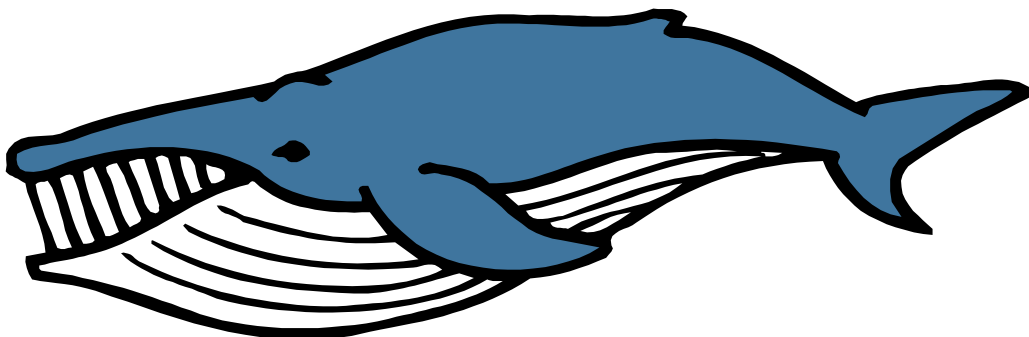
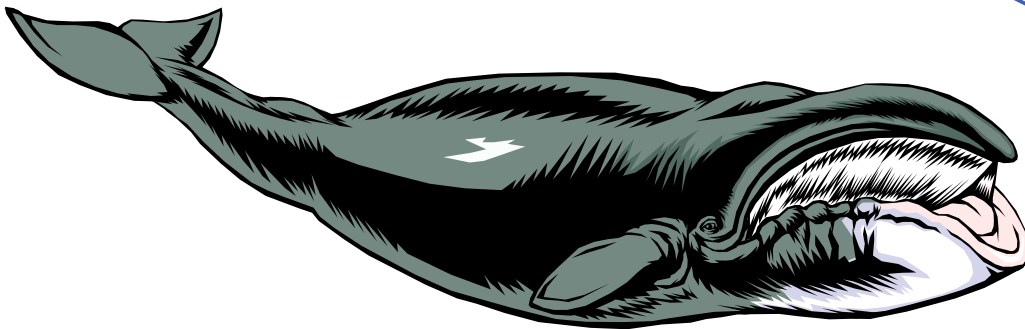
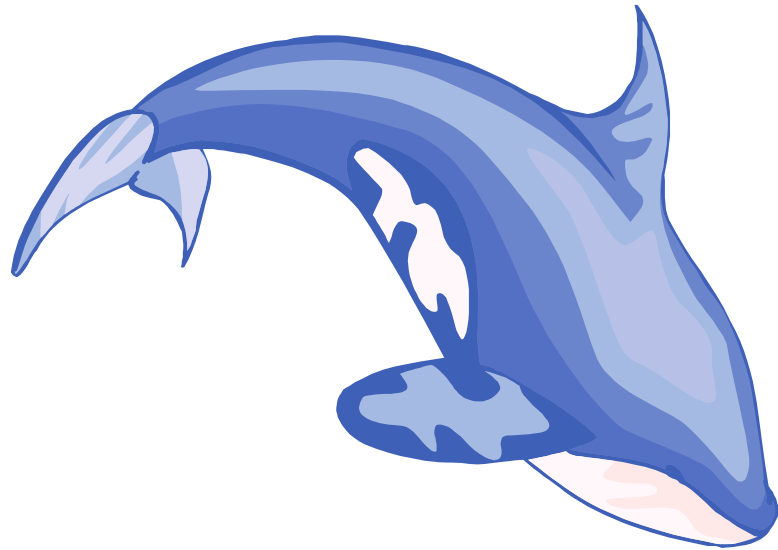
Anatomy: The Caribou is about 4 feet (1.2 m) tall at the shoulder and about 6 feet (1.8 m) long. Unlike most types of deer, both bulls (males) and cows (females) have antlers, which they shed each year and re-grow. They have wide hooves and a broad muzzle.

Diet: The Caribou spends most of the day eating grass, leaves, and other plant material.

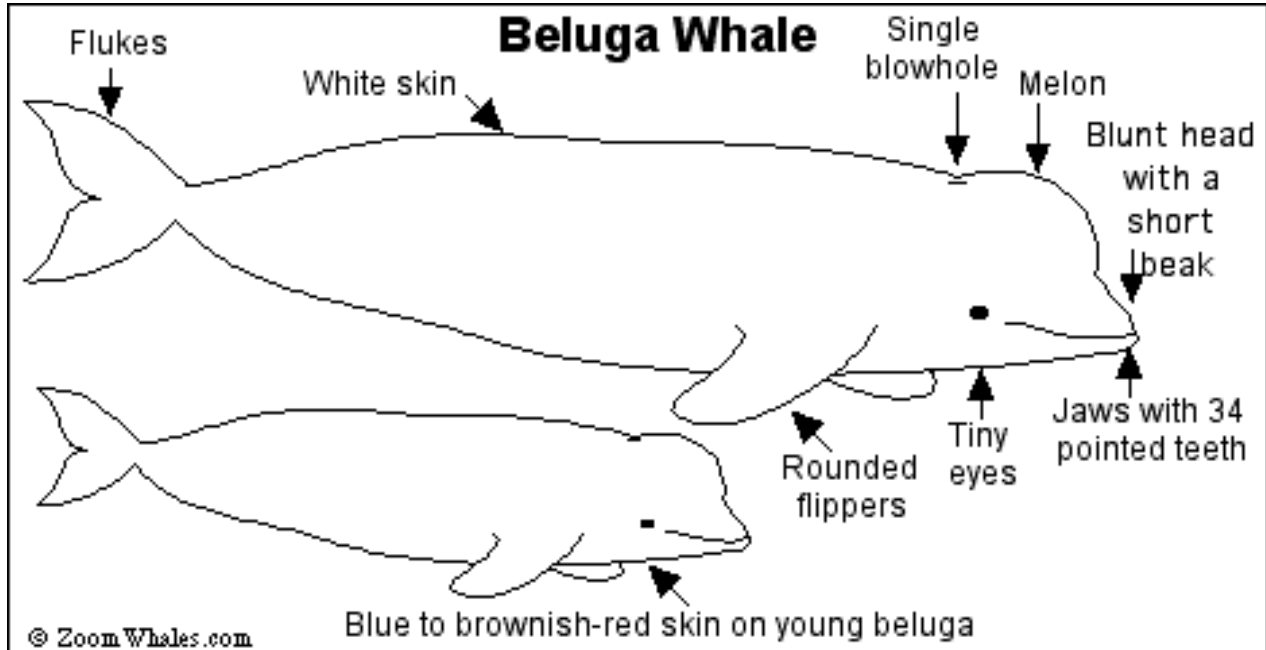


My Whale Book

Make copies of the following pages. Help your child to make a book about whales. Cut the whales out and stick them on the cover.



My Whale Book: Beluga Whales



The Beluga whale lives in cold Arctic and sub-Arctic waters. The adult has white skin and sharp teeth. Belugas are very social animals, gathering in pods (social groups) of 2-25 whales. They are slow swimmers who are hunted by killer whales, polar bears, and people.

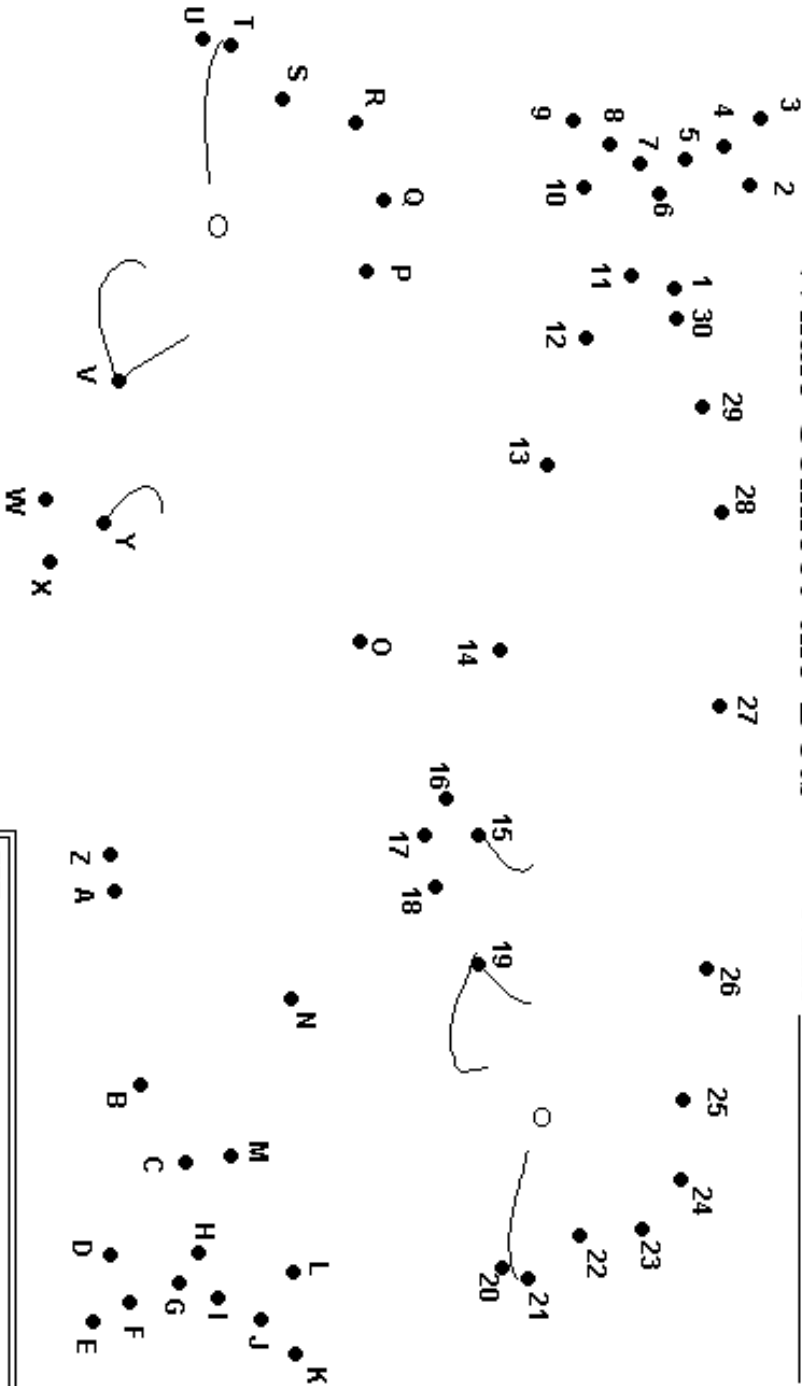
Diet: The Beluga is a meat-eater. It hunts and eats fish, squid, shellfish, octopi, and worms that live on the bottom of the ocean. The Beluga finds its prey by using echoes.



My Whale Book: Whale Connect-the-Dots

Whale Connect-the-Dots

Name _____



These whales are small, toothed white whales that live mostly in cold, Arctic waters. They are about 15 feet (4.6 m) long. These carnivores eat a varied diet of fish, squid, crustaceans, and other marine animals.

What are these whales called?

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