



The Marine Mammal Center.

The Marine Mammal Center advances global ocean conservation through marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation, scientific research, and education.

## Answer Key: An Ocean Feast

Humpback Whale



1. **A) Matching Game:** Everyone has a favorite meal! Draw a line between each hungry marine mammal's plate and their favorite food (Hint: some mammals may have more than one. Consider the shape, size, and teeth of each skull to help you answer.)

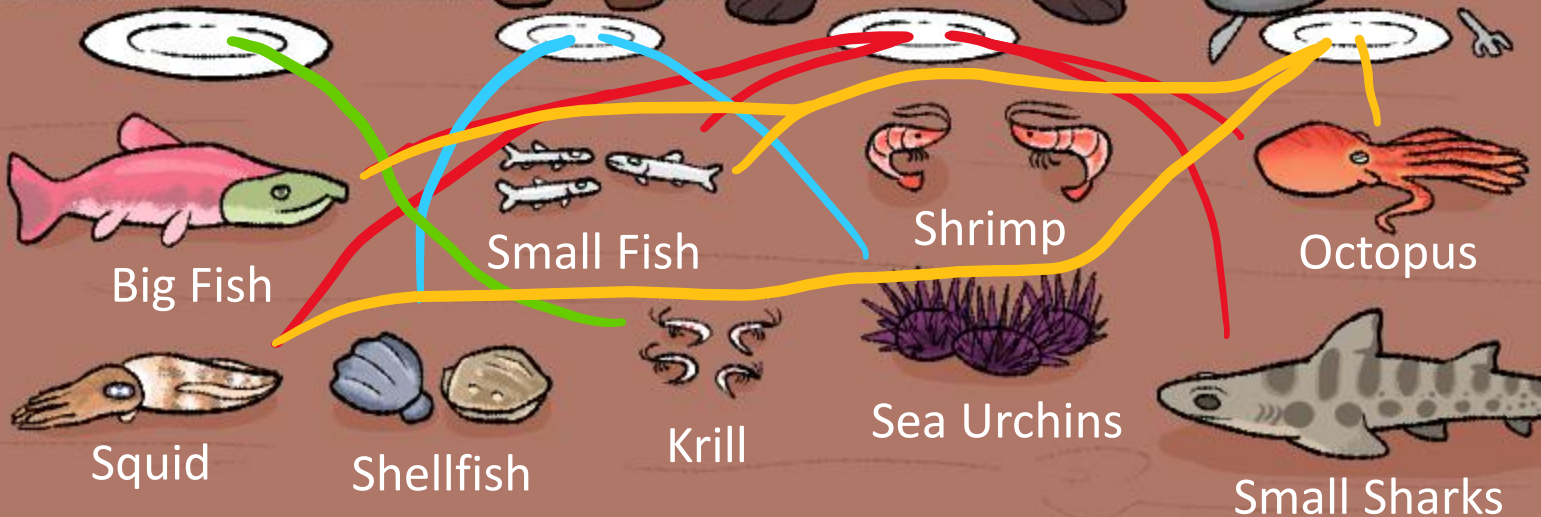
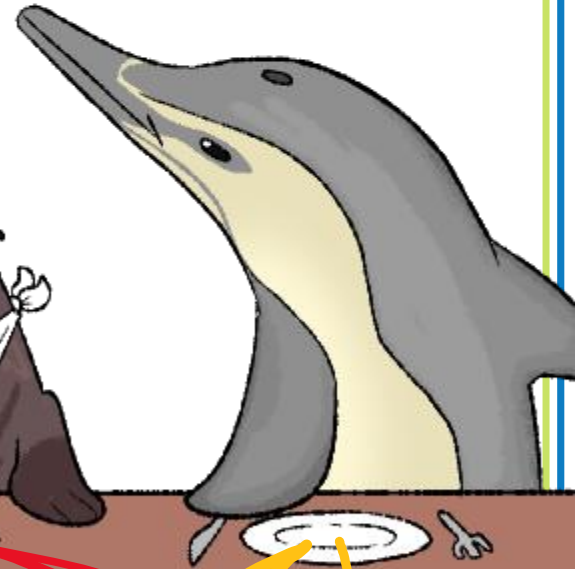
Common Dolphin



Northern Fur Seal



Sea Otter



Big Fish

Small Fish

Shrimp

Octopus

Squid

Shellfish

Krill

Sea Urchins

Small Sharks



## Answer Key: An Ocean Feast

**1. B) Matching Game (Cont.):** Now that everyone has a meal on their plate, take a moment to reflect and briefly explain below why you assigned a food to a marine mammal (Hint: click on the link next to each animal for a three-dimensional model of their skull). If animal skulls really interest you, check out [this link here](#) for a deeper dive into the subject that may help you answer this question even more thoroughly.

- a. Humpback Whale ([Baleen Whale Skull](#))

Humpback Whales have large, toothless skulls. On a living specimen, their mouths would be filled with baleen, perfect for filtering out their favorite food krill.

- b. Sea Otter ([Sea Otter Skull](#))

Sea Otters have large, tough molars towards the back of their mouths for cracking through the tough shells of sea urchins and other shellfish.

- c. Northern Fur Seal ([Sea Lion Skull](#))

Northern Fur Seals have large, sharp canines for capturing and holding onto fast moving prey such as fish and sharks.

- d. Common Dolphin ([Dolphin Skull](#))

Dolphins have long rows of sharp, pointed teeth also well suited for fast moving prey such as squids and octopuses.





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**2. A) Eat Like a Seal:** Most of our patients at The Marine Mammal Center eat sustainably sourced herring, and, with a little research, you can be just as sustainable! Start by going to the [Seafood Watch website](#). After searching for any type seafood, you'll find out whether it is a **best choice**, a **good alternative**, or one to **avoid** (some may only have one source option, while others have all three). Use the prompts below, as well as your own favorites, to fill out the table below with the location and method for each case.

	BEST CHOICE	GOOD ALTERNATIVE	AVOID
Salmon (Chinook)	New Zealand – Southwest Pacific Ocean Marine Net Pen	US – Eastern Central Pacific Ocean Trolling Lines	US – Northeast Pacific Ocean: Puget Sound Purse Seines
Shrimp (Atlantic Seabob)	N/A	US – Florida, Western Central Atlantic Ocean Skimmer Trawl	Mexico – Western Central Atlantic Ocean: Gulf of Mexico Bottom Trawls
Dungeness Crab	N/A	US – Washington, Northeast Pacific Ocean Pots	N/A

**2. B)** If seafood isn't for you, no worries! There are still lots of ways that you can be an ocean hero. Write in other ways that you help save oceans in your day to day life. If you need some inspiration, check out [The Marine Mammal Center Website](#) to learn more.

**Some possible ideas:** Switch to renewable energy (wind, solar), participate in Meatless

**Mondays, reduce plastic use as much as possible by using reusable items, etc.**