

Welcome to *Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition*.

Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition offers encyclopedias for students of all levels. To help you use the site more effectively we've created this short tour. It will guide you through *Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition*, from the home page to a search results page and then an article page. In addition, it highlights Britannica's Learning Materials, a collection of exercises, activities and study guides. You can also use the tour to help you choose a library with content and features appropriate for your grade level.

Britannica Online School Edition's Home Page

The Home Page is an entryway to all the resources available on the site.

The screenshot shows the home page of the Britannica Online School Edition. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, DICTIONARY, LEARNING MATERIALS, TEACHERS' RESOURCES, and GUIDED TOUR. The main content area features a search box with a 'GO' button and suggested searches for 'Mexico', 'pyramid', and 'Scotland'. Below the search box, there is a list of search results including 'Encyclopædia Britannica', 'Britannica Student Encyclopedia', 'Britannica Junior Encyclopedia', 'Britannica Concise Encyclopedia', 'Journals & Magazines', 'Web Sites', and 'Videos'. To the right, there are three large buttons for 'ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA' (For A-level Students and above), 'BRITANNICA STUDENT' (For Secondary School Student), and 'BRITANNICA JUNIOR' (For Primary School Students). At the bottom, there are four buttons for 'ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA ONLINE SCHOOL EDITION' (For all Students), 'ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA' (For A-level Students and above), 'BRITANNICA STUDENT' (For Secondary School Students), and 'BRITANNICA JUNIOR' (For Primary Students). A callout box on the right explains the search process, and another callout box at the bottom explains how to choose a library.

Search
Find information quickly and easily by searching Britannica four encyclopedias, magazines and journals, the Web's Best Sites, images and our collection of videos. Simply type in a word or phrase in the search box and click Go.

More School Edition Features
View a list of the many features available for the three different levels, including world atlases, timelines and several ways to browse the encyclopedias.

World Data Analyst
Subscribers can easily switch to Britannica's collection of country profiles and statistics.

Choose a Library
Select from the options on the right or click the buttons at the bottom of the page to choose a library appropriate for your grade level:

- *Encyclopædia Britannica* for high school/A-level students and up
- *Britannica Student* for middle/secondary school students and up
- *Britannica Junior* for primary students and up

Each includes an encyclopedia as well as magazines, Web sites, images and videos. You can also explore Learning Materials, a dictionary and thesaurus, a world atlas, timelines and other features.

Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition Search Results

After entering a word or phrase in the search box and clicking Go, you will next see a page that looks something like this one. From the results that match your query, you can choose to examine one or more items closely or try another search.



ENCYCLOPÆDIA
Britannica Online School Edition



Search: Unsure of the spelling?

HOME :: DICTIONARY :: LEARNING MATERIALS :: TEACHERS' RESOURCES :: GUIDED TOUR

Find Your Way

Use the links below the header to return Home, browse Learning Materials, find Teacher's Resources or get more help with the site.

Encyclopædia Britannica
For High School students and up
Results 1-6 of 467

[whale](#)



any of the larger species of aquatic mammals belonging to the order Cetacea. The term **whale** can be used in reference to any cetacean, including porpoises and dolphins, but in general it is applied to ...

View: [Article](#) | [Images](#) | [Index Entry](#) | [Multimedia](#) | [Tables](#)

[whale louse](#)
(family Cyamidae), any of a small group of highly specialized peracaridan crustaceans (order Amphipoda) related to the familiar skeleton shrimp found in shallow marine habitats. **Whale lice** are ...

View: [Article](#) | [Index Entry](#)

[baleen whale](#)
any cetacean possessing unique epidermal modifications of the mouth called baleen, which is used to filter food from water.

View: [Article](#) | [Index Entry](#)

[fin whale](#)



a slender baleen **whale**, second in size to the blue **whale** and distinguishable by its asymmetrical coloration. The fin **whale** is generally gray with a white underside, but the right side of the head has ...

View: [Article](#) | [Images](#) | [Index Entry](#)

Britannica Student
For Middle school students and up
Results 1-6 of 217.

[whale](#)



It weighs as much as 20 elephants but lives beneath the sea. The blue **whale** is Earth's largest animal. Larger than the largest of ancient dinosaurs, blue **whales** can grow to be more than 100 feet (30 meters) long and weigh nearly 150 tons. Not all **whales** are so large. The much smaller pilot **whale** ...

[whale shark](#)



the largest fish in the world. The **whale shark** is the only member of the family Rhincodontidae, which is in the carpet shark order, Orectolobiformes. The sole member of the genus *Rhincodon* as well, the **whale shark** has the scientific name *R. typus*.

[Toothed Whales from the whale article](#)



The toothed **whales** include more than 65 species in six different families. Among these are the true dolphins (family Delphinidae), which includes the pilot **whales** (genus *Globicephala*) and

Britannica Junior
Results 1-6 of 45.

[whale](#)



The sea animals known as **whales** are among the most fascinating members of the animal kingdom. They spend all of their lives in water, yet they are not fish. Instead, they are mammals: they breathe air from birth to live you nurse their young the way humans do. One **whale**, the blue **whale**, ...

[Whale hunting from the whale article](#)

Whales have been hunted for thousands of years. Ancient people used **whale** meat to feed themselves. In more recent times, people have killed **whales** for other reasons, especially to obtain the oil in their blubber. **Whales** were used first as lamp oil and later in making

Additional Content

- ▶ Journals and Magazines
- ▶ A-level
- ▶ Secondary
- ▶ Primary
- ▶ Britannica Concise Encyclopedia
- ▶ The Web's Best Sites

Images

Results 1-3 of 29.

[whale](#)



Search Results

Several different sources of information are available, displayed in different columns.

Encyclopædia Britannica
One of the most authoritative information sources in the world with over 73,000 articles.

Britannica Student
Authoritative encyclopedia articles written for middle school students.

Britannica Junior
Encyclopedia articles written for young students.

Journals and Magazines
A selection of current magazine and journal articles offer another angle on topics of interest. Available for three different grade levels.

Britannica Concise Encyclopedia
Brief articles for quick answers to a range of questions.

The Web's Best Sites
Web sites reviewed by our editors expand your study across the Internet.

Images
Photos, illustrations, and maps from Britannica's articles.

Videos
A collection of more than 2,000 video clips.

When you identify a source that interests you, click on the title to view the encyclopedia article, Web site, image, video or magazine article.

ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA ONLINE SCHOOL EDITION For all Students
ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA For A-level Students and above
BRITANNICA STUDENT For Secondary School Students

Search Again

Search: Choose the content you want to see:

[Comments and Questions](#) :: [Subscription Form](#)
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Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition Articles

Britannica's more than 123,000 articles are noted for their interesting and informative content. When you choose an *Encyclopædia Britannica* article you will see a page that looks like this one. If you choose a *Britannica Student* article or *Britannica Junior* article, you will see a slightly different display. For all the encyclopedias, we've included some features that will make exploring that content even easier.

Find Your Way
Use the links below the header to return to Home, browse Learning Materials, find Teacher's Resources or get more help with the site.

The Article
The text of the article appears in the center of the page. Media that accompany articles are arranged to the left of the text. To see a larger version of an image or play a media element, click on it.
Related content accompanies many of the articles. Use the buttons on the top of the left column to find maps, flags, tables and more. For example, click "Images" to see a list of images indexed to whale.
Longer articles are divided into separate pages. You'll find a link to the next section at the top and bottom of the page.
You can also go directly to different sections of the article by using the article's table of contents, which is also displayed on the left side of the page. Some tables of contents are very detailed and include subheadings as well as headings. Click the plus sign (+) next to a heading to view subheadings. You can also display the entire table of contents by clicking the link at the top.
If you'd like to print an article, you can switch to a printer-friendly format. You can share an article with a friend via e-mail. Also, if you plan to refer to an article in a report or paper, we provide a correctly formatted citation. Just click on the Print, E-mail and Cite links at the top of the article.

Switch Libraries
You can choose a library appropriate for your grade level. *Encyclopædia Britannica* offers content for high school/A-level students; *Britannica Student* offers content for middle/secondary school students; or *Britannica Junior* offers content for primary school students. Each library offers a variety of ways to browse the encyclopedia as well as an atlas and timelines.
You can also quickly see search results from other libraries by entering a word in the Search Again box then selecting a library from the menu and clicking Go.

The screenshot shows the article page for 'whale' with the following visible content:
- Header: Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition
- Search bar: whale
- Navigation: HOME :: DICTIONARY :: LEARNING MATERIALS :: TEACHER'S RESOURCES :: GUIDED TOUR :: HELP
- Left sidebar: Content Related to this Topic (Main Article, Images, Tables, Media, Related Articles), This Article's Table of Contents, Merriam-Webster link, and a Merriam-Webster dictionary snippet.
- Article title: whale
- Article text: any of the larger species to the order Cetacea. reference to any cetaceans, but in general 3 metres (10 feet) long dwarf sperm whale. otherwise striking resemblance. Whales are the heaviest reaching a maximum size (Balaenoptera musculus) of perhaps more than 220 tons (220 short [U.S.] tons).
- Article text: Whales are distributed throughout the world from the Equator to the polar ice, except for the largest. They are mammals, and they share the characteristics of mammals: breathe air, are warm-blooded, give live birth, and have hair. All are entirely aquatic, with flippers and tail flukes for living in water. They breathe, evacuating their lungs more completely than almost any other animal. The almost explosive breath known as a blow. The vapour in the whale's hot breath condenses into a mist.
- Citations: MLA style, APA style, Britannica style.
- Footer: Search Again, Choose the content you want, Comments and Questions, Subscription Form, © 2004 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition Learning Materials

Britannica’s collections of Learning Materials can help you perfect your skills and expand your knowledge. After you’ve selected English, Mathematics, Science or Social Studies you’ll see a list of available activities. Choose a type of activity from the appropriate level, then select a specific example, and a new window will open, as seen below.

Choosing Learning Materials

In each subject area, Learning Materials are grouped into narrower subject areas, grade levels and different types of activities. For example, Science includes Life Sciences, Chemistry, Physics and so on. Under Life Sciences, you will see different grade levels and links to interactive lessons, study guides, exercises and more. Click on a type of Learning Material to see the complete listing.

To open an interactive lesson, study guide or other activities simply click on the title. Another browser window will open and the selected item will be displayed.

If you have difficulty opening any of the Learning Materials, make sure you have the proper software plug-in. Links to plug-ins are provided when appropriate.

More Learning Materials

If you would like to see interactive lessons, exercises and activities for a different subject, you can use the links in the left column.

Sample Activity

When you choose one of the Learning Materials, you will see a second window. Each activity is different, so please read the instructions provided to learn how to use the one you have chosen.

The screenshot shows the Britannica Online School Edition interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for HOME, DICTIONARY, LEARNING MATERIALS, and TEACHERS' RESOURCES. The main content area is titled "LEARNING MATERIALS" and is categorized under "Science > Interactive Lessons: Life Sciences". A note indicates that these activities require Shockwave and may take time to download. The list includes "AIDS: How HIV Attacks and Destroys the Immune System", "Cloning", and "Digestive System". A callout box points to the left-hand navigation menu, which lists subjects like English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Another callout box points to the "Eye and Vision" activity, which is shown in a separate browser window. This window displays a detailed diagram of the human eye, showing light rays entering through the cornea and lens, hitting the retina, and being processed by rods and cones. The diagram is labeled with "rod" and "cone" and includes the text "light rays" and "EB Inc.".