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All about...

Marine Mammals

Marine mammals are similar to other mammals; they have hair or fur, warm blood and give birth to live young. However, marine mammals have changed slightly so that they can live most of their lives in water. There are lots of different animals which are marine mammals; some of them are otters, seals, whales, dolphins, walruses and polar bears.

Fascinating Facts

All marine mammals have thick blubber (fat) to keep their bodies warm.

Where Do They Live?

Marine mammals can be found living in the oceans in many parts of the world. Some live in the warmer waters around the equator, whilst others live in the cooler waters of the Arctic and Antarctic oceans.

What Do They Eat?

Marine mammals eat lots of different things depending on their preferred food and which type of creature they are.

Seals eat fish, octopus and shellfish and other types of meat that they catch.

Otters eat mainly fish and other small sea creatures such as crabs, crayfish and frogs.

Polar bears mainly eat seals, but will also eat some whales if they are able to catch them.

Staying Safe

When dolphins sleep they keep half of their brain active and keep one eye open so they can watch for predators and other threats.

Seals have very thick blubber around their body which makes it hard for many animals to bite and eat them. Except for animals like killer whales and large sharks, most predators do not bother trying to capture a seal.

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Questions about...

Marine Mammals

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. What are the differences between marine mammals and land mammals?

2. Write the name of three marine mammals.

3. Where do they live?

4. What do seals eat?

5. What do polar bears eat?

6. How do dolphins stay safe?

7. How do marine mammals keep warm?