



Exploring Humpback Whales - Student Worksheet

In order to understand the arguments we will prepare for the Town Hall meeting, we need to first explore the species and populations of humpback whales. In order to gain familiarity with these animals, use multiple resources (at least three) to find information for each of the following categories. Be thorough with your research and your responses. If you do not understand a term being used on this paper or on a website, look it up and write down the meaning.

Be sure to indicate the website you used to gather information for each section.

- I. Scientific name for humpback whale: _____

- II. Describe the physical characteristics of a humpback whale. Include an illustration with labels:

Website Sources: _____

III. Describe the feeding behaviors of humpback whales. Include locations of feeding grounds:

Website Sources: _____

IV. Indicate the lifespan and breeding cycles of humpback whales:

Website Sources: _____

V. List the number of individuals estimated to be in each population, and their status (endangered, threatened etc.):

Population	Est. Number of Individuals	Status
Mexico		
Central America		
Hawaii		

Website Sources: _____

VI. List three recent (published in the last 5 years) research articles related to humpback whales. Include the title of the article, the journal it was published in, and a link to the website. Then, write a brief summary of the types of research being done on humpback whales.

VII. Finally, write three questions you have about the research or what you would like to find out about humpback whales that you could not uncover in your search today.

Examples of websites that could be used to complete this worksheet:

- [Estimated Humpback whale bycatch in the US west coast](#)
- [NOAA Humpback Whale page](#)
- [Marine Mammal stock assessment page](#)
- [Mexico Whale population paper](#)