Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin
*(Tursiops aduncus, Ehrenberg, 1833)*

**Appearance**
Longish prominent beak, varying shades of grey with lighter grey 'cape' that runs from behind the head. Freckles on the sides and belly start at sexual maturity. Small dark eye patches.

**Size**
- 2.5mt animal = 184kg's
- 1.5mt animal = 41kg's
- 1.1mt animal = 15kg's

**Longevity**
60 years

**Gestation**
12 months

**Diet**
- Reef fish
- Sandy bottom fish
- Pelagic fish
- Cephalopods (octopus, squid)

**Behaviour**
- Groups of >5 - <15
- Mating year round
- Fission fusion society
- Resident inshore species
- Calving peaks in the spring/summer months

**Newborn/Neonate**
Delivered to us in June 2010. She had stranded on the beach and was dead. There were no apparent signs as to why she died.

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Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphin
*(Sousa plumbea, G. Cuvier 1829)*

**Behaviour**
- Groups of >5 (PDO)
- Mating & year round
- Calving peaks summer
- Shy & illusive animal
- Often seen in association with bottlenose

**Appearance**
Distinguishable with long elongated beak.
- Fleshy hump that bears the dorsal fin
- Broad flippers with rounded tip
- Indistinct line extends from flipper to eye
- Calves born light grey - darkening with age

**Shallow waters (<20m), warm temperatures (15 - 36°C)**
- Tropical & temperate coastal waters
- Rivers, estuaries & mangroves

**Longevity**
>46 years

**Gestation**
11 to 12 months

**Diet - fish, mollusks & crustaceans**
- 2.5mt animal = 196kg's
- 1.5 mt animal = 39kg's
Long-snouted Spinner  (Stenella longirostris, 1828)

Appearance & Diet
Beak edged with black, margins of the dark black & grey sides are more or less parallel.
Prey on fish & cephalopods.
Longevity ~20 years
Gestation ~11 months
1.8mt animal = 57.4kg
1.4mt animal = 28.9kg

Generalised offshore in PDO region
Seen traveling in association with each other
Enjoy riding the bow of boats

Pan-tropical Spotted
(Stenella attenuata, 1846)

Appearance & Diet
Long, narrow beak with white ‘lips’ & conspicuous dark cape, with age belly darkens & speckling starts
Prey on fish & cephalopods
Longevity >46 years
Gestation 11 to 12 months
2.2mt animal = 93kg
1.5 mt animal = 33kg

Teeth
47-62 pairs upper jaw
46-61 pairs lower jaw

Humpback Whale - Rorqual
(Megaptera novaeangliae, Borowski, 1781)

Distribution - HBW’s occur in all oceans worldwide. Regular migration route with summer feeding grounds in temperate waters & winter breeding grounds in polar region.

Groups of 1-6 (PDO)
Dorsal & tail leave ‘fingerprint’
Longevity >50 years
Gestation 12 months
Sexual maturity 6 to 10 years
Calf intervals 2 years
Calving July to October
Diet - krill, shrimp like crustaceans; small fish

Appearance: dorsal fin on the back & ventral pleats lower jaw to belly. The HBW’s blow is straight and bushy towards the top. Black on dorsal side, black & white on ventral & fluke. Knob like protruberances on surface of the rostrum.

HBW’s song songs that comprise of units that are sung in a particular order. All ‘singers’ in the same area tend to sing the same song, however the song evolves within a season. Most singers are lone adult males & there are debates as to the song’s purpose (the mating of other whales, reproductive display to attract females or establishing dominance ranking).

5mt animal = 1.9 tonnes
10mt animal = 14.9 tonnes

Lobtailing - slapping the surface of the water; said to be a sign of aggression. Possibly a means of foraging in HBW’s
Spy hopping with eye below the water surface. Sailing aids the cooling of body temperature.

Breaching HBW’s need to leave the water at a speed of 8mt per second in order to clear 90% of its body.
Freckling in *tursiops aduncus*

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- Neonate/newborn <3 mths, fetal lines visible
- Calf 3 to 12 months
- Juvenile up to 4 yrs, freckling begins
- ~5 year old, freckling apparent
- ~7 year old, freckling becoming more pronounced
- Adult stage 1, sexually mature
- Adult stage 2, ~25 year old
- Adult stage 3, Elder, ~40+ years: freckling fused and running onto chin

**Whaleshark**

*Rhincodon typus* (Smith, 1828)

The Whaleshark is one of only three known filter-feeding sharks, suction feeding by gulping in dense aggregations of zooplankton, or passive feeding when plankton density is lower.

**Distribution**
Tropical & warm waters of all oceans, dive to depths of 700m, migratory, seasonal feeding aggregations.
Recorded in surface sea water temperatures of 18 to 30°C

**Size:** 12.5 mt's animal = 21.5 tons

**Diet**
Krill
Crab larvae
Copepods
Phytoplankton
Macroalgae
Small fish
Uniquely id'd through the spotting

**Appearance**
Typical shark like look with white spot/line pattern
Largest living fish in the ocean up 20 mt long
Very slow moving with large mouth ~1.5 mt & 1000's of minute teeth

**Longevity**
>70 years
Gestation unknown
Birth intervals unknown
Ovoviviparous (eggs hatch in the uterus)
Bearing about 300 embryos of 48-58 cm