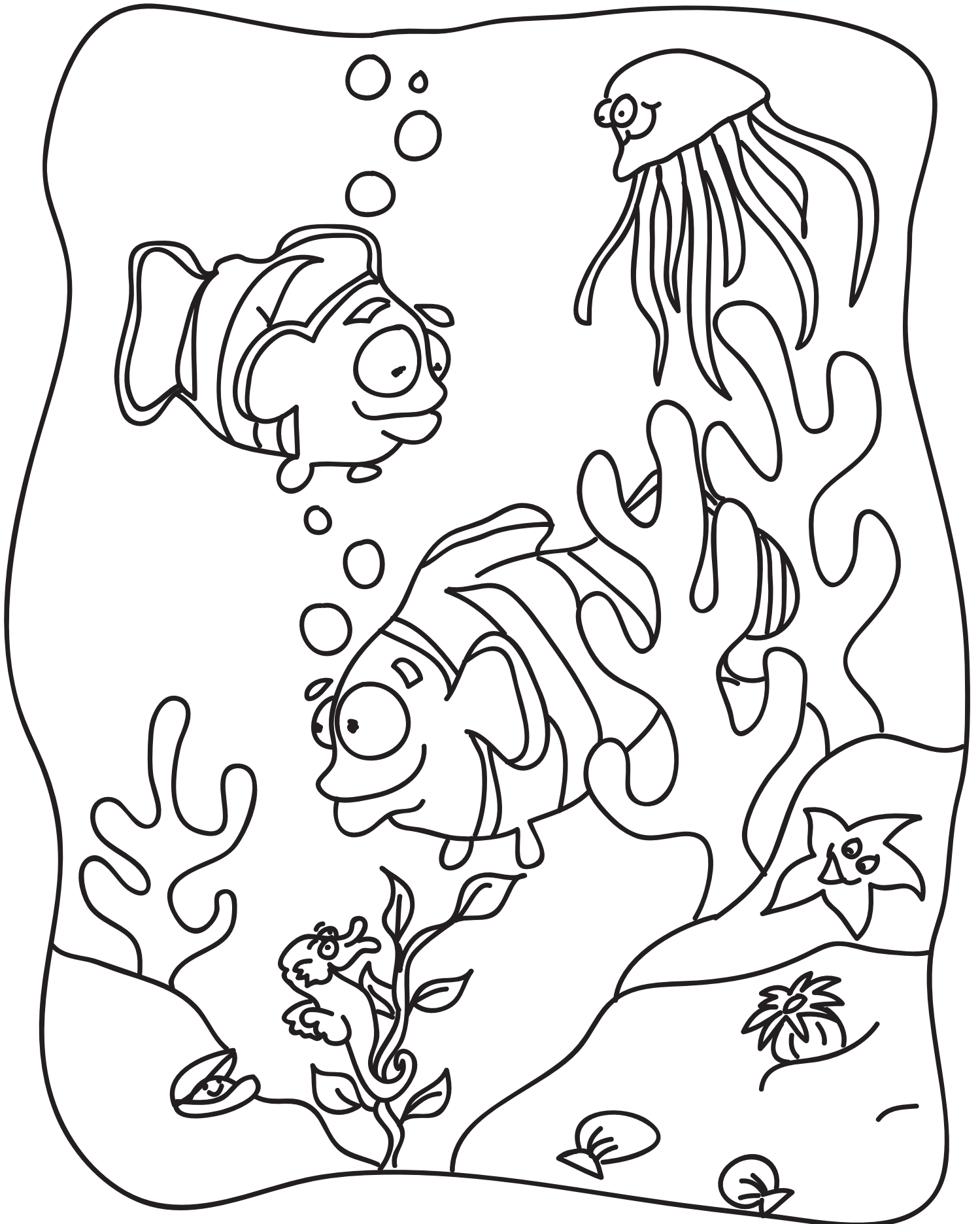
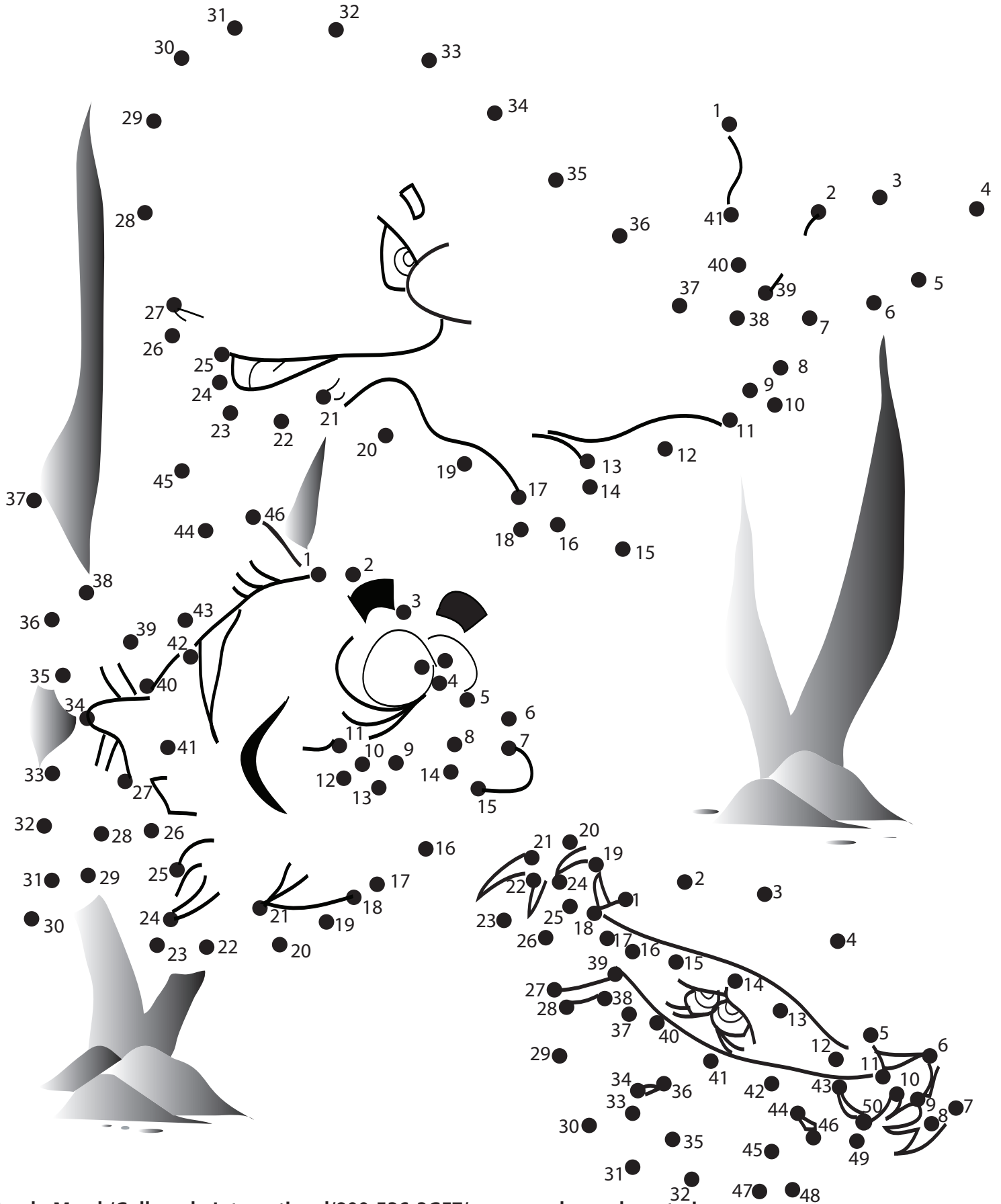


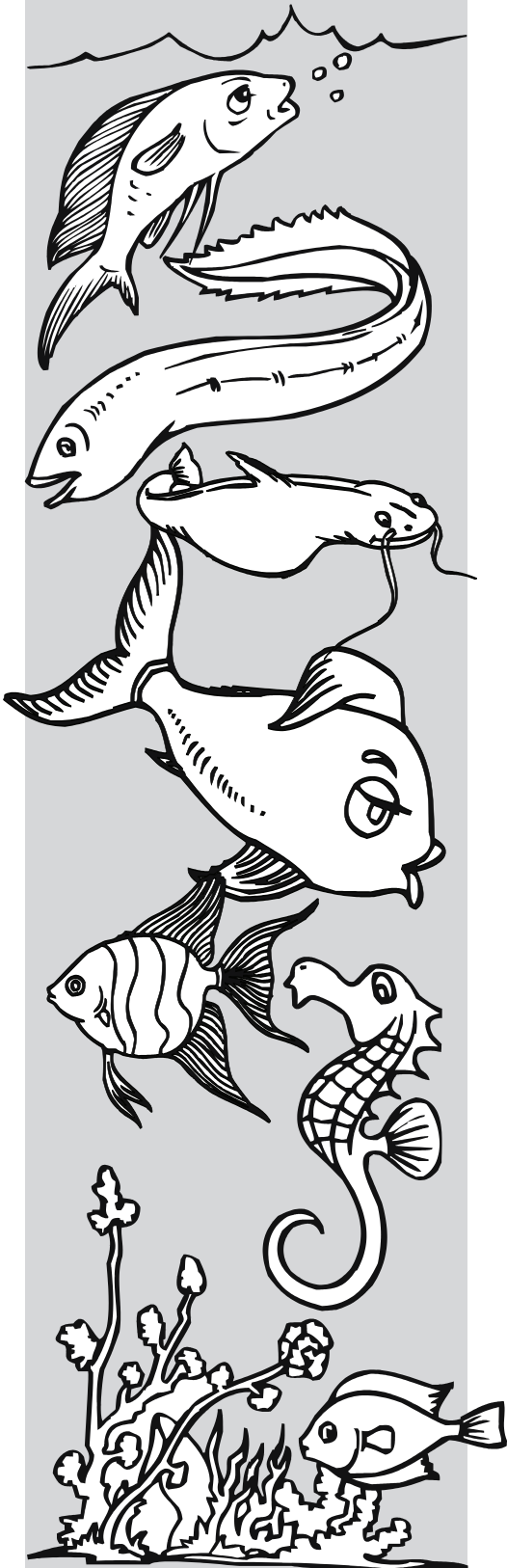
WHAT A COLORFUL WORLD!



THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY HERE!



History of Aquariums



Did you know that oceans cover 70 percent of the earth's surface? Have you ever wondered what's going on deep beneath the sea? From the earliest days of civilization, people have been curious about the "wonders of the deep," and aquariums offer a fascinating glimpse at the secret life of fish and other sea creatures!

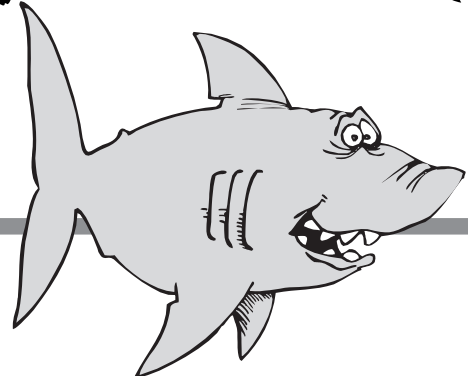
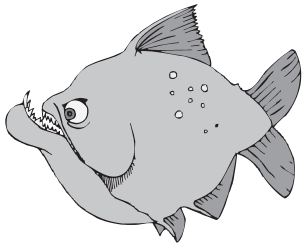
Historians tell us that ancient Sumerians (lived in the area that is now Iraq) were keeping fish in ponds for food as early as 2500 BC. The Egyptians considered some fish to be sacred, and bred certain types of fish for their beauty. The Greek philosopher Aristotle was one of the first people to study fish and record information about them. He was an early ichthyologist!

Do you know which little fish started the whole aquarium concept? It was that golden, graceful standard of every modern aquarium—the goldfish! The ancient Chinese people were the first to breed goldfish around the 10th century. These beautiful creatures became an instant hit when they were exported to Japan around 1500. Goldfish came to England in the 1600s, and became a common sight in lakes and ponds.

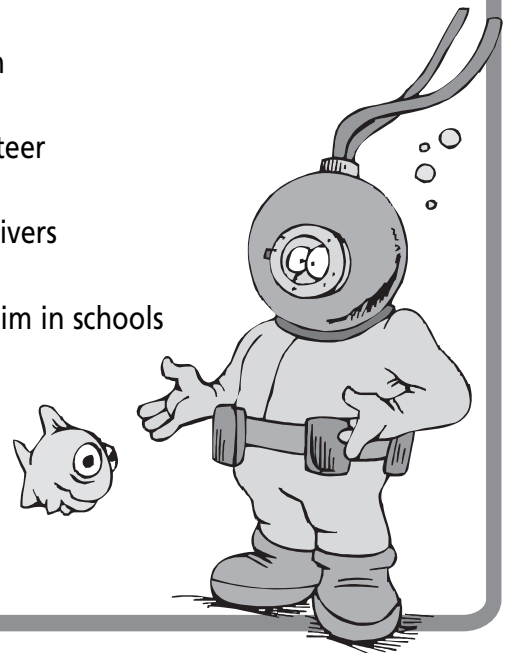
The first public aquarium opened in London, England in 1853. The famous circus showman P.T. Barnum opened the first American aquarium that same year in New York City. Sadly, many fish did not survive in these early aquariums. It took experts another 20 years to understand how to create the delicate environment needed to keep fish alive in tanks. Once this was understood, more aquariums began to pop up all over the United States and the world.

Today, the world's largest indoor aquarium is the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta. This massive facility holds 8 million gallons of water for 100,000 fish to frolic freely! Keeping fish in aquariums is America's second-favorite hobby after photography, and fish are just behind cats as America's most popular pet!

Aquarium Mystery Matching Game

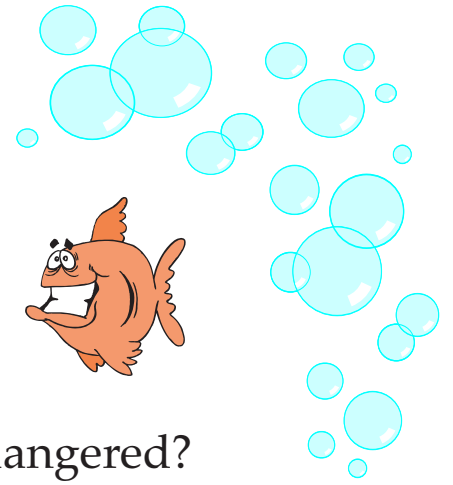


- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. ichthyologist | A. aggressive, meat-eating fish |
| ___ 2. mammal | B. one who studies animals and plants in salt water |
| ___ 3. fish | C. warm-blooded animal that breathes air |
| ___ 4. krill | D. lives and feeds on bottom of a body of water |
| ___ 5. crustacean | E. group of related organisms |
| ___ 6. bottom-feeder | F. internal organ that helps fish float |
| ___ 7. marine biologist | G. one who studies fish |
| ___ 8. aquarist | H. aquatic animal with a hard shell |
| ___ 9. fin | I. one who takes care of an aquarium |
| ___ 10. piranha | J. cold-blooded animal with backbone; lives in water |
| ___ 11. freshwater fish | K. protective outer covering of a fish |
| ___ 12. swim bladder | L. fish body part used to swim and steer |
| ___ 13. scales | M. fish living in lakes, streams, and rivers |
| ___ 14. gills | N. tiny, shrimp-like creatures that swim in schools |
| ___ 15. species | O. allow a fish to breathe |





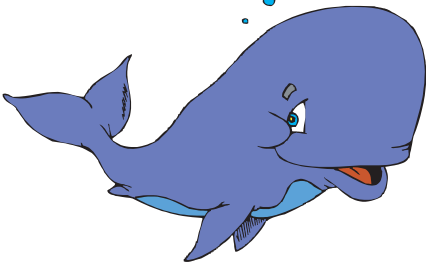
Pop Quiz!



1. What is the largest species of fish on earth?

2. What species of whale is the most endangered?

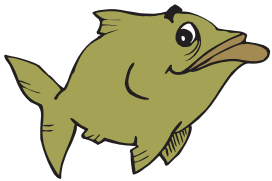
3. What color is a beluga whale?



4. What kind of “home” do hermit crabs live in—and swap out—from time to time?

5. How do you feed an octopus?

6. Penguins live in what kind of climate?

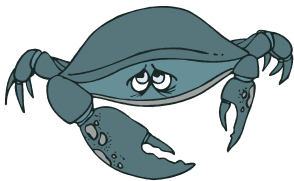


7. True or False? An octopus is very smart.



8. What is krill?

9. True or False? A hermit crab lives in the same shell for its entire life.



10. What is the difference between a fish and a mammal?

