

Whale Word Puzzles

OBJECTIVES

Students practice sounding and spelling new words.

MATERIALS

- paper and pencils
- chalkboard or writing surface



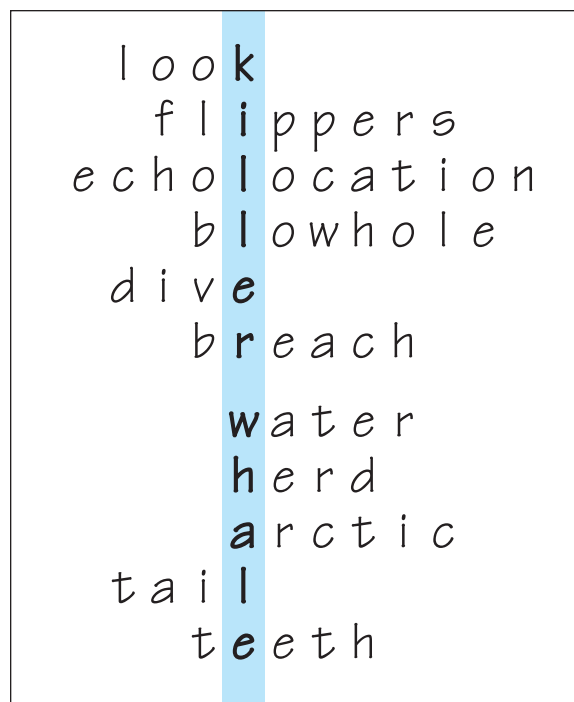
ACTION

1. Ask students to name words and terms they have learned while studying whales. Write these words on the board. Here are some suggestions:

Antarctic	gulp	melon
Arctic	herd	ocean
baleen	hunt	plankton
big	ice	pod
blow	jump	predator
blowhole	krill	prey
blubber	leap	rostrum
breach	length	skin
breathe	lice	smooth
dive	listen	swim
dorsal fin	long	tail
echolocate	look	teeth
endangered	lunge	underwater
flipper	mammal	water
flukes	marine	whale

in it. Write that word horizontally (so that the letter “k” in “killer whale” is also the k in the word chosen.) Repeat for each letter in the name “killer whale.” Below is an example:

3. Try again using another whale name.



2. Next, write the name “killer whale” vertically on the board. Ask a student to choose a word with the letter “k”

DEEPER DEPTHS

Each student chooses a whale species. Using the letters of the whale’s name, the student creates a series of descriptive words about the whale. For example, “baleen,” “long,” “underwater,” and “endangered” describe a blue whale. As students take turns reading their words aloud, the class listens and identifies the first letters of each descriptive word. Then students guess the name of the whale.