



MACGILLIVRAY FREEMAN'S

# HUMPBACK WHALES

PRESENTED BY PACIFIC LIFE



## FAMILY ACTIVITY BOOK

## HUMPBACK FUN FACTS

- A humpback's pectoral fins can grow up to 15 feet long—that's like having the wingspan of a Learjet!
- Humpback whales can consume up to 4,000 pounds of food in a single day.
- Female humpbacks are larger than adult males and reach an average length of 55 feet—as long as a school bus!
- As baleen whales, humpbacks filter feed on tiny crustaceans (mostly krill), plankton and small fish.
- Humpbacks migrate thousands of miles from their summer feeding grounds in cold, polar waters (like Alaska and Antarctica) to winter breeding grounds in warm, tropical waters near the equator (like Hawaii and Tonga).
- Among the 78 species of baleen and toothed whales, only a small handful are known to produce whale songs, including humpbacks.



## WORD SEARCH

See if you can find each of the following words:

ANTARCTICA

DIVE

A V O M H B M D I V E R P F V C A B

BALEEN

FLUKE

B L U B B E R O A P K R I L L D R U

BLOW-HOLE

HAWAII

E D S F H L I E N P L E J U I O B B

BLUBBER

HUMPBAC

M B A L E E N Y A J U F Z K C G U H

BREACH

KRILL

O H D O R S E M S C N T W E E F B Y

BUBBLE

MIGRATE

S U G U F I S H I K H B F J G I B G

CALF

SING

H A E K H N J K I S P E D U C A L F

A S C E A G D Z W P M I G R A T E J

W P Z L I N D A G O I M Z M R K S A

A N T A R C T I C A D O B I I O N L

I F E P H U M P B A C K A S T H F N

I O V S B S A C Y V B L O W H O L E

N G A I P D L K B G A O V T S L B E

E A L O H A M O R A N T U E W A T N

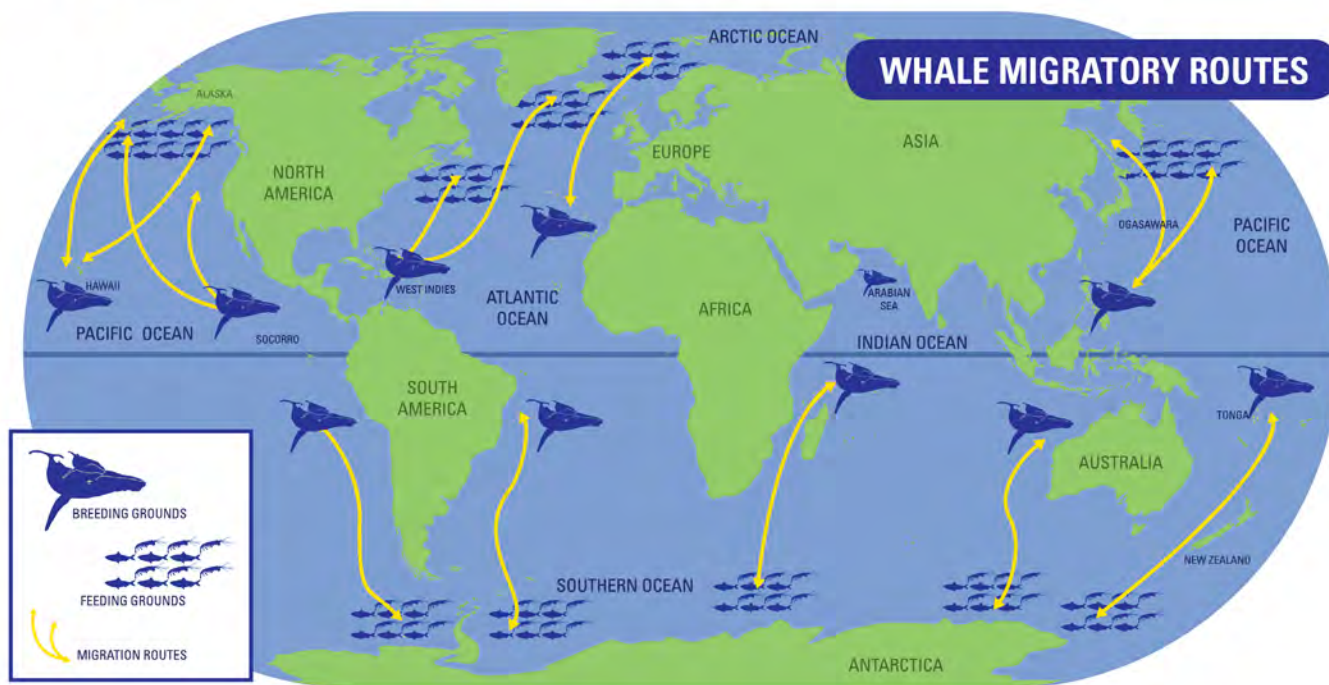


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# HUMPBACKS TODAY



Today, humpback whales are found in all the oceans of the world. Often called the *ocean's acrobats*, they like to leap high out of the water, a behavior called *breaching*. Though all humpbacks make sounds to communicate, only males sing. The whales in each social group all sing the same song, which can last up to 20 minutes. Their complex melodies change over time and over different regions of the world.

It's hard to imagine that in the last century, commercial whaling almost drove humpbacks to extinction. In 1966, with less than 10% of original humpback populations remaining, the international community passed a ban on hunting humpbacks. Since then, their populations have been steadily increasing.

Over the last 50 years, we've studied and discovered many fascinating behaviors and facts about humpbacks, but researchers are the first to admit that we're just beginning to understand these

ocean giants. There is so much more to learn about humpback whales and their importance to the ocean and our planet.

**While their populations are recovering, humpbacks still face threats from ship strikes, entanglement in fishing gear and ocean pollution. Here's how you can help protect them:**

- Be curious! Learn more about humpback whales at your library, on the internet, or at your local museum or aquarium. The more we understand humpback whales, the more we will know how to protect them.
- Support conservation organizations, scientific research and legislation aimed at preserving the health of the ocean—with your wallet, your vote, your volunteer time.
- Eat sustainable seafood to help preserve the humpback's ocean home. Get Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch app to guide your shopping and dining ([www.seafoodwatch.org](http://www.seafoodwatch.org)).
- Take science classes in school and explore a career in oceanography and marine biology.

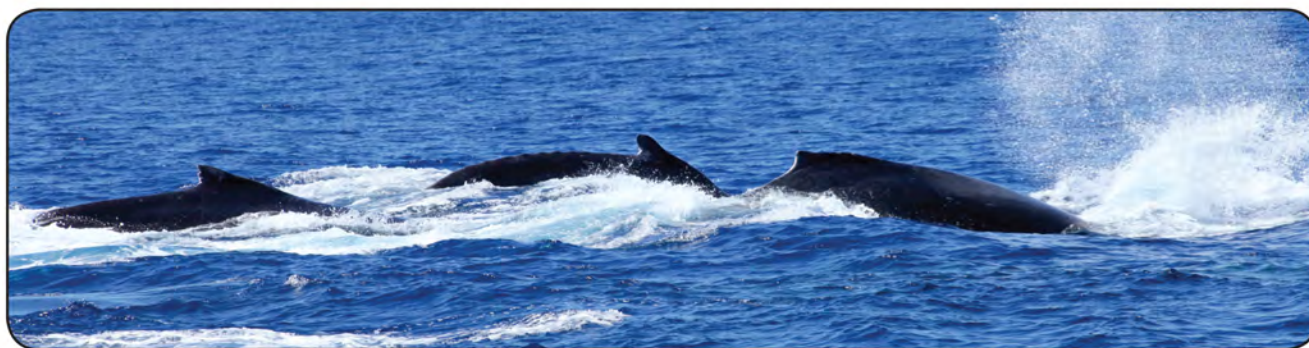
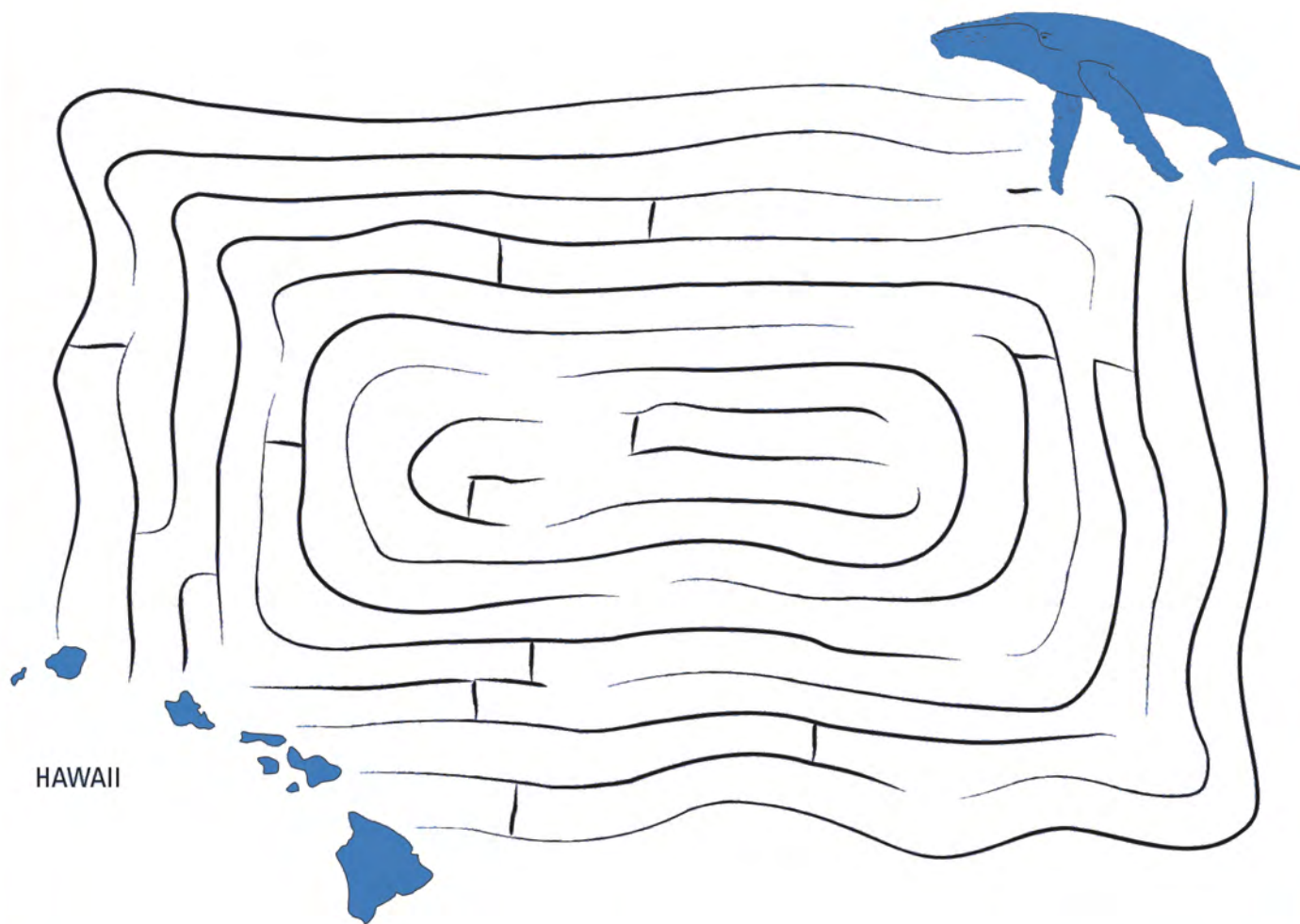
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# MIGRATION MAZE

Help the mother humpback on her migration from Alaska to her breeding grounds in Hawaii by making your way through this maze.



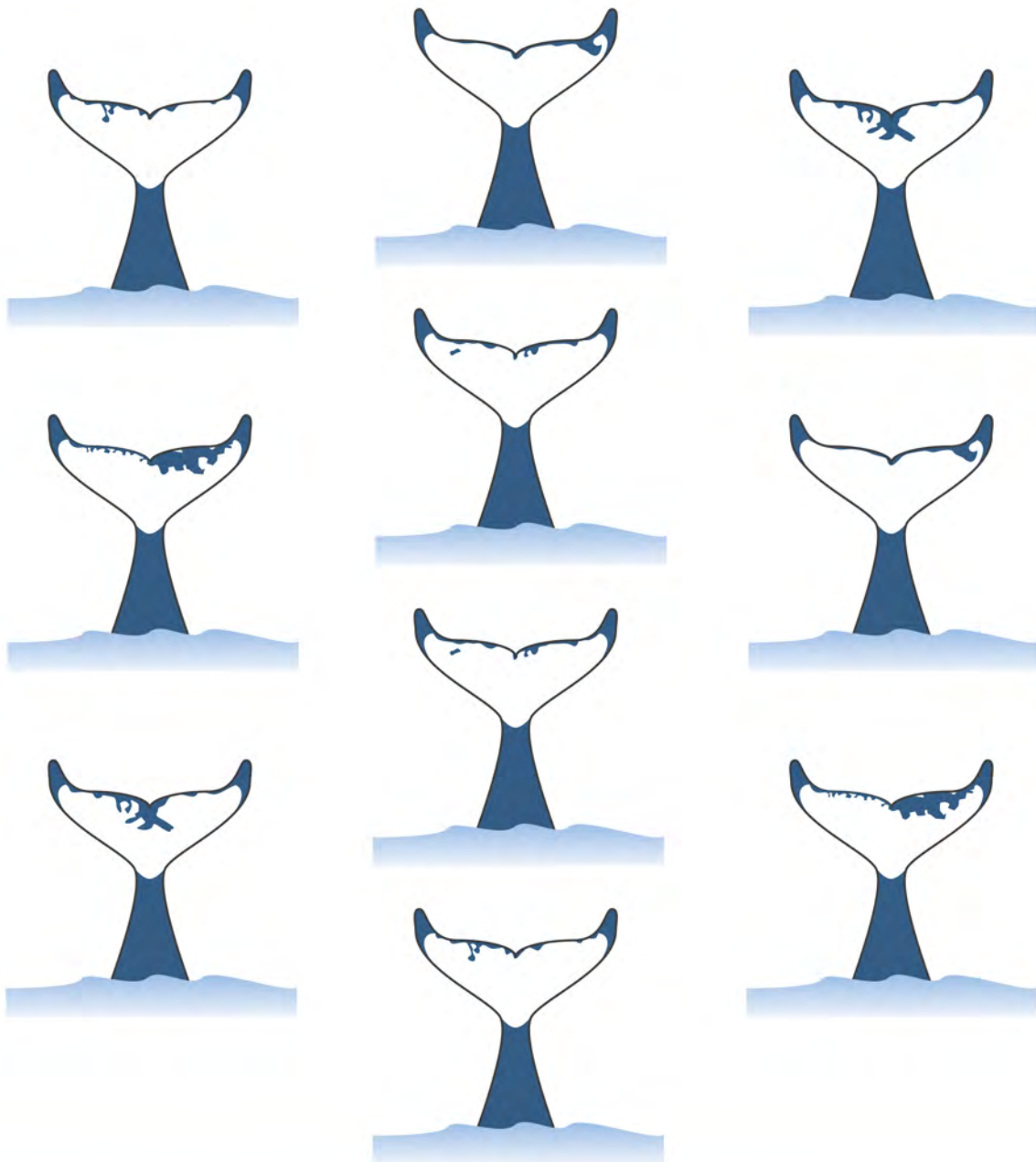
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# IDENTIFY WHALES

Scientists can identify individual humpback whales by studying their tail flukes. The color patterns and scars are unique marks, like your own fingerprints, that distinguish one whale from the next. Can you find the matching whale tails?

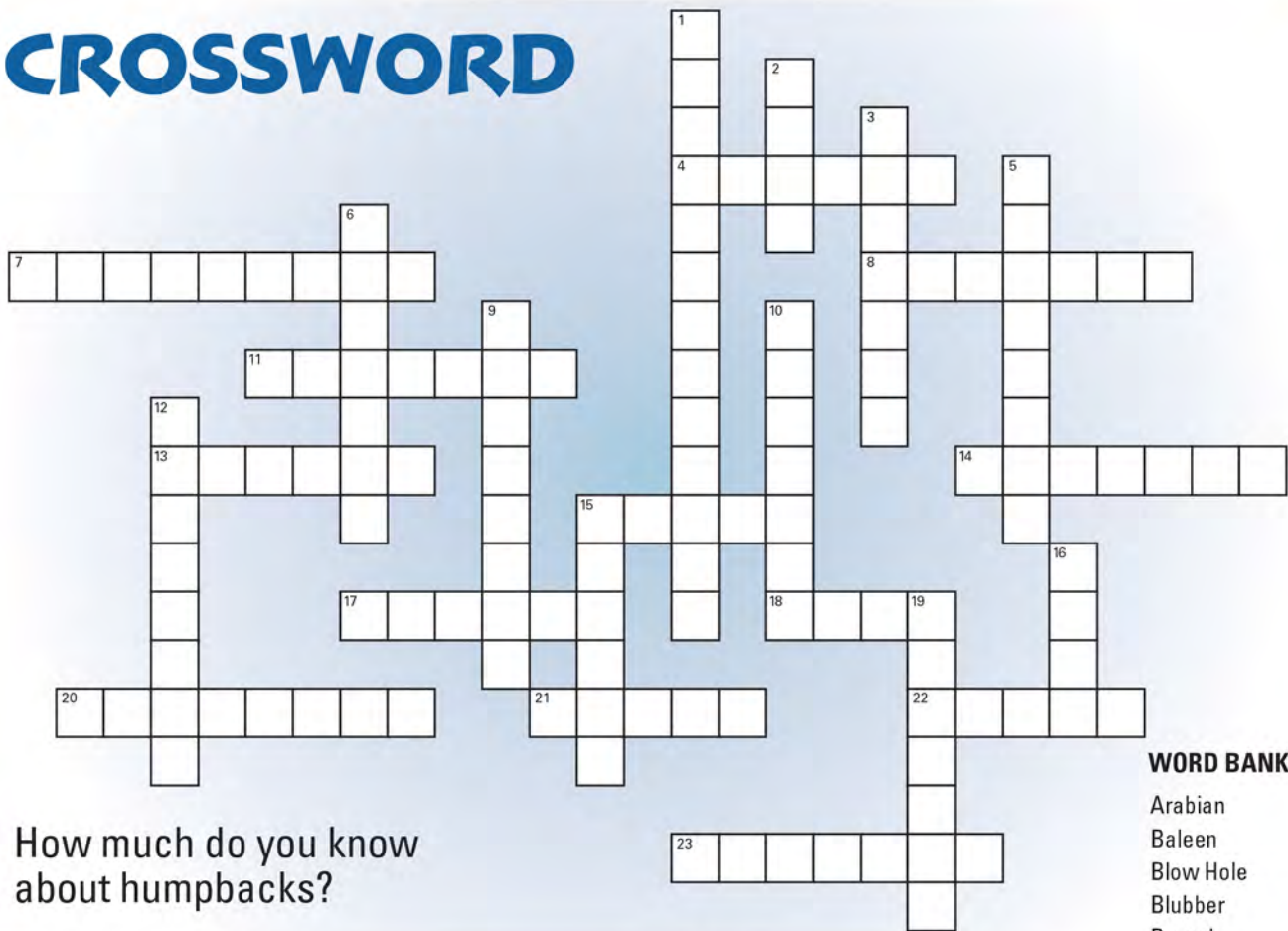


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# CROSSWORD



How much do you know about humpbacks?

## ACROSS

- 4 Humpbacks use this to strain food into their mouths instead of teeth.
- 7 The long journey from feeding to breeding grounds.
- 8 These fish hang around humpback whales, often hitching a ride.
- 11 The only sea population of humpbacks that do not migrate.
- 13 The estimated number of distinct humpback whale populations.
- 14 The fatty tissue that stores energy and keeps humpbacks warm in deep water during long migrations.
- 15 The main source of humpback food.
- 17 When humpbacks jump out of the water, they \_\_\_\_\_ the surface.
- 18 The humpback is named for the arch-back \_\_\_\_\_ it does into water.
- 20 Humpbacks hang \_\_\_\_\_ when singing in the open ocean.
- 21 The name of the humpbacks tail.
- 21 Some Southern Hemisphere humpbacks travel to this island nation to mate and give birth.
- 23 Humpbacks are often caught as \_\_\_\_\_ in commercial fishing nets.

## DOWN

- 1 The group hunting method of Alaskan humpbacks.
- 2 Baby humpback whale.
- 3 These fish are often caught by humpback bubble nets.
- 5 Humpbacks breathe out of this.
- 6 Spacecraft that took recordings of humpback songs into space in 1977.
- 9 This island chain has the largest humpback population.
- 10 Humpbacks often get \_\_\_\_\_ in fishing nets.
- 12 These fins can grow up to 15 feet long.
- 15 Hawaiian name for humpback whales.
- 16 Only humpback males do this.
- 19 Humpbacks almost became \_\_\_\_\_ in 1966.

## WORD BANK

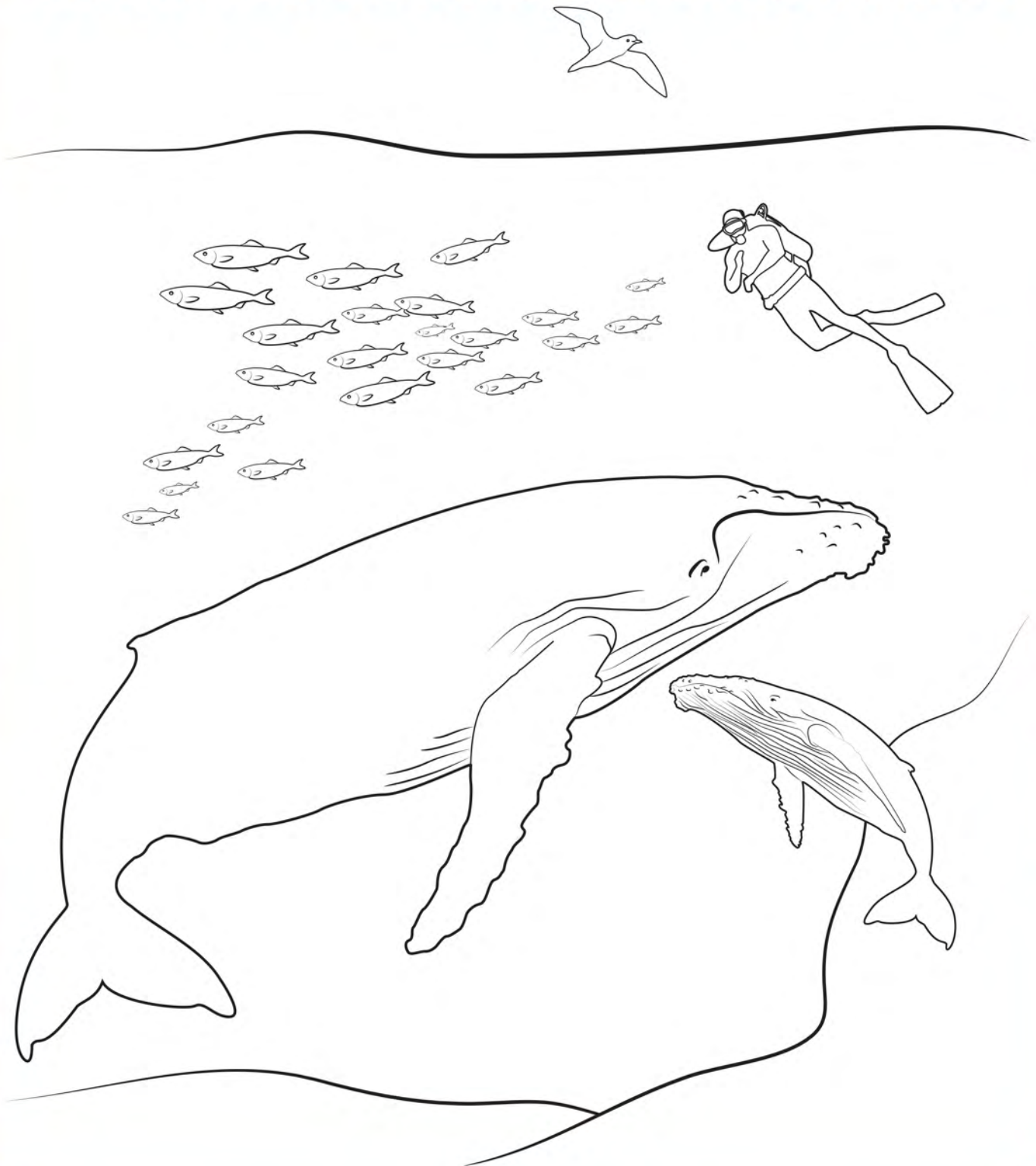
Arabian  
Baleen  
Blow Hole  
Blubber  
Breach  
Bubble Netting  
Bycatch  
Calf  
Dive  
Eleven  
Extinct  
Fluke  
Hawaiian  
Head Down  
Herring  
Kohola  
Krill  
Migration  
Pectoral  
Remoras  
Sing  
Tangled  
Tonga  
Voyager

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# COLOR YOUR OWN HUMPBACK WHALE



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**A WHALE-SIZED ADVENTURE  
FOR THE GIANT SCREEN!**

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# HUMPBACK WHALES

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An extraordinary journey into the mysterious world of one of nature's most awe-inspiring marine mammals, *Humpback Whales* takes audiences to Alaska, Hawaii and the Kingdom of Tonga for an immersive look at how these whales communicate, sing, feed, play and take care of their young. Captured for the first time with IMAX® 3D cameras, and found in every ocean on earth, humpbacks were nearly driven to extinction 50 years ago, but today are making a steady recovery. Join a team of researchers as they unlock the secrets of the humpback and find out what makes humpbacks the most acrobatic of all whales, why only the males sing, and why these intelligent 50-foot, 48-ton animals migrate more than 6,000 miles round-trip every year.

ACTIVITY BOOK MADE POSSIBLE BY:



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MICHELE HALL