

Guess Who? Trivia

Play a game to explore fun facts about Alaska marine mammals!

Materials Needed:

Printable trivia cards and species cards, scissors, bag or other small container, pencil.

Prepare the Cards:

Cut out the trivia cards along the dotted lines (try not to peek at the answers!). Place the trivia cards in a bag or other small container. Cut out the species cards and give one to each player.



How to Play:

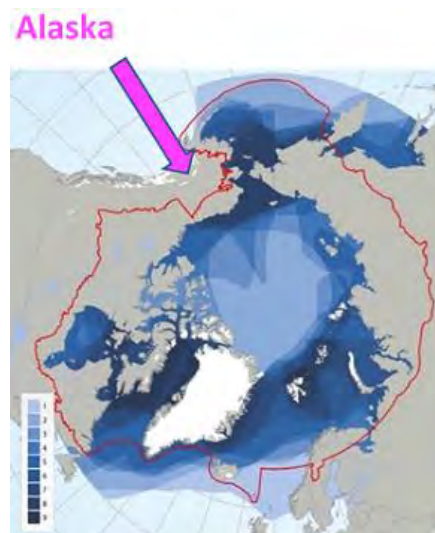
Take turns picking trivia questions from the bag and ask the other players the “Guess who?” question. For each correct answer, mark the corresponding animal on your species card. Challenge each other to mark the most species! Can you “collect” all fourteen animals?

Note: Some questions have more than one correct answer. You can choose whether to mark one or all of them on your species card.

Marine Mammals in Alaska

The waters of Alaska are home to polar bears, sea otters, walruses, and many species of whales and seals. Some stay year-round, while others migrate north in the summer to breed. Arctic waters provide an ideal habitat for marine mammals, as they are rich in food and are a gateway to the Arctic Ocean. These waters have some of the richest marine mammal species diversity in the world (darkest areas on the map).

Discover more about Arctic marine mammals:
www.fisheries.noaa.gov/find-species































Species richness for 11 marine mammals.

Image: State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity Report.

Guess Who? Trivia: Species Cards

Cut along the dotted lines. *Note: Animals are not to scale.*

	Sea Otter		Killer Whale
	Polar Bear		Walrus
	Pacific White-sided Dolphin		Harbor Porpoise
	Ringed Seal		Ribbon Seal
	Bowhead Whale		Narwhal
	Beluga Whale		Humpback Whale
	Steller's Sea Cow		Blue Whale
	Sea Otter		Killer Whale
	Polar Bear		Walrus
	Pacific White-sided Dolphin		Harbor Porpoise
	Ringed Seal		Ribbon Seal
	Bowhead Whale		Narwhal
	Beluga Whale		Humpback Whale
	Steller's Sea Cow		Blue Whale

Guess Who? Trivia Cards

I am the largest animal in the world. <small>Answer: blue whale</small>	I am very shy around people and boats, and often travel alone. <small>Answer: harbor porpoise</small>	I belong to the weasel family. <small>Answer: sea otter</small>
When I surface for air, I don't make a splash. <small>Answer: harbor porpoise</small>	My dark body has large stripes on it. <small>Answer: ribbon seal</small>	I run on the ice with my front flippers, swishing my hindquarters back and forth. <small>Answer: ribbon seal</small>
I have the densest fur of any animal (up to one million hairs per square inch!). <small>Answer: sea otter</small>	My bones turn pink when I eat purple sea urchins! <small>Answer: sea otter</small>	I almost went extinct because of the fur trade. In 1912, there were less than 300 of us left in the wild. <small>Answer: sea otter</small>
I can eat 100 pounds of blubber in one sitting! <small>Answer: polar bear</small>	I am the keeper of the kelp forest. <small>Answer: sea otter</small>	I am the only marine mammal without blubber. <small>Answer: sea otter</small>
When I was born, I weighed just one pound. But I can grow to be 2000 pounds! <small>Answer: polar bear</small>	In the summer, I become stranded on land if sea ice is too far from the coast. <small>Answer: polar bear</small>	My fur looks white but it is transparent. Underneath, my skin is black. <small>Answer: polar bear</small>
The skin around my neck is almost 4 inches thick to protect me from injuries. <small>Answer: walrus</small>	My friends and I make a blubber wall to protect ourselves against polar bears. <small>Answer: walrus</small>	Climate change is a major threat to my species because I depend on sea ice to eat seals. <small>Answer: polar bear</small>
I love to cuddle! In captivity, calves cuddle with animal caretakers to survive. <small>Answer: walrus</small>	I can suck out a clam from its shell at a speed of 120 mph, and eat around 6000 clams each day! <small>Answer: walrus</small>	In Latin, my name is "Odobenus", which means "tooth walker". <small>Answer: walrus</small>
My bow-shaped head helps me break through sea ice. <small>Answer: bowhead whale</small>	I can live over 200 years! <small>Answer: bowhead whale</small>	I swim with my mouth open to feed on zooplankton. <small>Answer: bowhead whale, humpback whale, blue whale</small>
My coat has ring-shaped markings. <small>Answer: ringed seal</small>	My blubber is the thickest of any animal, up to 19 inches thick! <small>Answer: bowhead whale</small>	I am known for my intense tail and flipper flapping, and leaping out of the water during mating season. <small>Answer: bowhead whale</small>

UAMN Virtual Junior Curators: Marine Mammals

I can cut out a breathing hole through ice 6 feet thick!	I dig out lairs under the sea ice to protect my pups from polar bears.	I cut breathing holes through the ice with the claws on my front flippers.
Answer: ringed seal	Answer: ringed seal	Answer: ringed seal
I spend long amounts of time scanning the horizon for predators.	I raise my young on thin ice to protect them from predators.	To feed, I suck fish into my mouth like a vacuum!
Answer: ribbon seal	Answer: ribbon seal	Answer: beluga and narwhal
I am the ocean's top predator.	I was hunted for meat by Arctic expeditions in the 1700s. One of us could feed a crew for 30 days.	I went extinct in the 1700s. My closest relatives are the dugong and the manatee.
Answer: killer whale	Answer: Steller's sea cow	Answer: Steller's sea cow
I hunt in a pack, just like a wolf.	I live in all of the world's oceans and eat many different kinds of prey.	I am the largest member of the dolphin family.
Answer: killer whale	Answer: killer whale	Answer: killer whale
I am easily recognized underwater because of my unusual white color.	I can change the shape of my bulbous head by blowing air through my sinuses!	I can swallow a sea lion whole!
Answer: beluga whale	Answer: beluga whale	Answer: killer whale
I am one of the best divers in the world, diving up to 1500 meters deep (almost 5000ft).	My skin contains as much vitamin C as an orange!	Males of my species have a long spiral shaped tooth.
Answer: narwhal	Answer: narwhal	Answer: narwhal
Together with others in my pod, we make bubble nets to feed.	My cone shaped teeth help me hold on to fish. I swallow them whole so the bones don't catch in my throat.	I can spin in the air and do summersaults.
Answer: humpback whales	Answer: Pacific white-sided dolphin	Answer: Pacific white-sided dolphin
I like to "bow ride": swim near the front of ships.	I don't have a dorsal fin, because in the cold Arctic water it would lose heat.	My nickname is the "sea canary" because I am very vocal!
Answer: Pacific white-sided dolphin	Answer: beluga whale, bowhead whale	Answer: beluga whale
Underwater noise pollution makes it hard for me to communicate with others of my species.	Climate change is a threat to my species because I depend on sea ice.	My vision and hearing work well both underwater and out of the water.
Answer: bowhead whale, humpback whale, beluga whale, blue whale, Pacific white-sided dolphin, harbor porpoise.	Answer: polar bear, walrus, ringed seal, ribbon seal, bowhead whale, beluga whale, and likely other species also.	Answer: ringed seal