Find the Question for “A Whale of an Ocean” (Grades 4-5)

Use this activity to engage students and to promote comprehension and recall of the article “A Whale of an Ocean.” Here’s how to incorporate Find the Question into your classroom:

- Have students read the article. This can be a read-aloud, small group activity, or independent reading.

- Explain the procedure. Assign partners if you want students to work in pairs (pairs must stay together during the entire activity). Have students number a paper 1-10.

- Post the question/answer pages around the classroom or playground.

- Students circulate, reading answers and trying to locate the corresponding question. When they find a match, they write the question’s letter next to the answer’s number. The activity is over when they have matched all questions and answers. Note: Some students will finish more quickly than others. You may want to have another activity to keep early finishers busy while the remaining students are working.

Find text-only, color book, and electronic book versions of “A Whale of an Ocean” at:

Answer Key
1. F
2. D
3. H
4. E
5. J
6. G
7. B
8. I
9. A
10. C

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1
Around eight pounds every hour

A
What is different about the Southern Ocean?
Around twenty elephants

B
What do krill eat?
3
The Southern Ocean that surrounds Antarctica

C
Describe baleen whales.
4
Whaling industry

D
How much does a mother blue whale weigh?
5

Blue whales

E

What wiped out the blue whales living off Antarctica?
6
Krill

F
How fast do newborn blue whales grow?
What two-inch long shrimp-like animals do blue whales eat?
8
The energy of sunlight

H
Where are the blue whales’ feeding grounds?
There is a lot of sunlight, but the water doesn’t get warm. The cold water from the surface sinks down, pushing the deeper nutrient-rich water up.

I
What do phytoplankton use to make food?
Instead of teeth, they have flexible bristles like a spaghetti strainer in their mouth.

What are the largest animals on earth?