

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.

Wolves of the Sea

The orca, or killer whale, is the biggest animal in the dolphin family. Like other dolphins, it has a blowhole on the top of its head so it can breathe air. Killer whales live and hunt together in families called pods, much the way wolves in a pack live and hunt together. This is why killer whales are sometimes called wolves of the sea.	15 33 49 64
Each pod makes its own special sound so that the whales that live in the same pod can recognize their family. The clicks and whistles killer whales make also help them communicate when they're hunting.	80 94 99
Killer whales are black with white patches. They can grow to be as long as twenty-eight feet and weigh twelve thousand pounds or more. They have teeth in both jaws, each tooth being about three inches long and one inch in diameter. Killer whales can swim as fast as thirty miles per hour when they are chasing their prey.	114 127 142 158
They will eat almost any sea animal, including turtles, seals, other whales, and even birds.	171 173
These beautiful black-and-white whales live all over the world. People are sometimes lucky enough to see the giants when they leap out of the water. Killer whales also like to slap their tails on top of the water, but no one knows why they do these things.	184 199 218 220
Because they are so beautiful and easy to train, they are often used in movies and marine animal shows, working closely with people.	236 243
Whether you see a killer whale in a movie, in a park, or in the ocean, it will be a sight you will never forget.	263 268

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Turn the page.

Answer the questions below.

**1** Why did the author write this selection?

- to make you want to protect killer whales
- to inform you about killer whales
- to describe how killer whales hunt
- to warn you about a dangerous animal

**2** Why did the author use the words *clicks* and *whistles* to describe the sounds the whales make?

- because other whales use clicks and whistles
- to show that whales sound like humans
- to let you know that the author has heard whales
- to help you understand how whales sound

**3** Why did the author probably use the term *killer whales* more often than *orcas*?

- Killer whales* is the more scientific term.
- Killer whales* sounds more exciting than *orcas*.
- The term *killer whales* is shorter than the term *orcas*.
- There are more *killer whales* than there are *orcas*.

**4** What is the author's purpose for including the third paragraph?

- to express feelings about the way orcas hunt their prey
- to inform you about how orcas talk to each other
- to help you enjoy orcas if you see them
- to inform you about the size and speed of the orca

**5** The selection states that seeing a killer whale is something you will never forget. What do you think is the *most likely* reason that this might be true?

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