

Humpback Whale

Mega migrating mammal

- One of the largest animals on earth, weighing up to 40 tonnes.
- Humpback whales travel 10,000 kilometre round trips, one of the longest migrations of any animal on earth.
- They migrate in small family pods, constantly communicating with one another.
- Their powerful tails provide slow, steady thrusts, driving them forward through the water. Their giant pectoral fins, help the humpback manoeuvre gracefully through the water.
- Whales breathe through a nose on top of their heads called a blowhole, or a spout. When they come to the surface, they blow out a large mist, as if they are blowing their noses. They can stay underwater for 30 minutes at a time.
- Whales have evolved ways to communicate through a series of clicks, whistles and yowls. Their sounds are unique to the pod.
- Humpbacks usually dive around 50 metres, but they can dive deep as 600 metres and they hold their breath the entire time.

Every year, these mega-mammals migrate between the freezing waters of Antarctica, where the food is plentiful, to the warmer waters of the north, where they give birth.



“Humpbacks store massive amounts of fat before their migration. This works like a warm jacket as they glide through the coldest waters on earth.”

PHIL BRESLIN,
BUILT TO SURVIVE HOST