

Lesson 19 - Biological Classifications

Throughout ORCA Lesson 19, we learnt that animals can be grouped together if they have similar characteristics, either by what they look like and/or their genetics. We looked at how to classify a **blue whale** and a **Cuvier's beaked whale**.

Can you **fill in the table below** to work out the classification for 4 other species of cetacean?

1. Narwhal
2. Harbour porpoise
3. Humpback whale
4. Northern bottlenose whale

| Biological Classification | Narwhal | Harbour porpoise | Humpback whale | Northern bottlenose whale |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Domain | <i>Eukaryote</i> | <i>Eukaryote</i> | <i>Eukaryote</i> | <i>Eukaryote</i> |
| Kingdom | <i>Animal</i> | <i>Animal</i> | <i>Animal</i> | <i>Animal</i> |
| Phylum | <i>Chordata</i> | <i>Chordata</i> | <i>Chordata</i> | <i>Chordata</i> |
| Class | <i>Mammal</i> | <i>Mammal</i> | <i>Mammal</i> | <i>Mammal</i> |
| Order | <i>Cetacea</i> | <i>Cetacea</i> | <i>Cetacea</i> | <i>Cetacea</i> |
| Suborder | <i>Odontoceti</i> | <i>Odontoceti</i> | <i>Mysteceti</i> | <i>Odontoceti</i> |
| Family | <i>Monodontidae</i> | <i>Phocoenidae</i> | <i>Balaenopteridae</i> | <i>Ziphiidae</i> |
| Genus | <i>Monodon</i> | <i>Phocoena</i> | <i>Megaptera</i> | <i>Hyperoodon</i> |
| Species | <i>Narwhal</i> | <i>Harbour porpoise</i> | <i>Humpback whale</i> | <i>Northern bottlenose whale</i> |
| Scientific name | <i>Monodon monoceros</i> | <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> | <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> | <i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i> |

Hint: Domain → Order will be the same for all cetaceans

Use this website for a helping hand:

<https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Cetacea/classification/#Cetacea>

Scroll to the bottom of the page where you can see cetaceans and then click on baleen whale or toothed whale and go from there!

