

# Lesson 18: Measuring Giants

Cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) come in a great range of different shapes and sizes, from the largest animal on Planet Earth, the blue whale, to the smallest cetacean, the vaquita porpoise.

**What you will need:** A measuring tape and eager students!

## Instructions:

1. Using a measuring tape, measure out the lengths below for each species that we have learnt about in Lesson 18 (and a couple more!)
2. What's the largest species that you could fit inside your living room/classroom/garden/playground?
3. **Advanced activity:** To make this a more complicated task, work out your height. Then work out how many of you would be the same length as each of the creatures below! All you need to do is this equation:

$$\text{length of animal} \div \text{your height}$$



## Species:

**Vaquita porpoise = 1.2m** (*the smallest of all cetaceans*)

**Harbour porpoise = 1.9m**

**Common dolphin = 2.5m**

**White-beaked dolphin = 3.1m**

**Risso's dolphin & bottlenose dolphin = 4m**

**Pilot whale = 7m**

**Orca (killer whale) = 9.8m**

**Minke whale = 11m**

You'll need a large space like a playground to do the following ones!

**Humpback whale = 17m**

**Fin whale = 27m**

**Blue whale = 33m** (*the largest animal that has ever lived on the planet!*)