

Fluke Matching Challenge

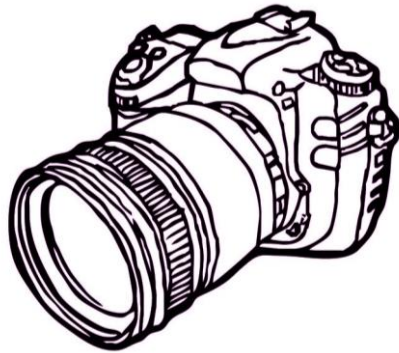
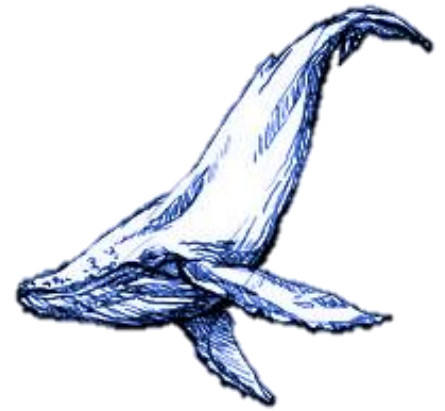


Whale tails or flukes
are all different...
can you tell them apart?

Ages 2-102. This is a free educational tool brought
to you by Juneau Flukes. Photographs included were
taken under NMFS research permit # 14296.
www.JuneauFlukes.org

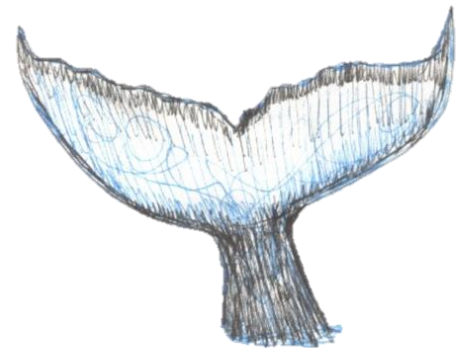


When a whale takes a deep dive, they sometimes bring their tail or flukes up in to the air. This helps them to point their heads toward the deep water.

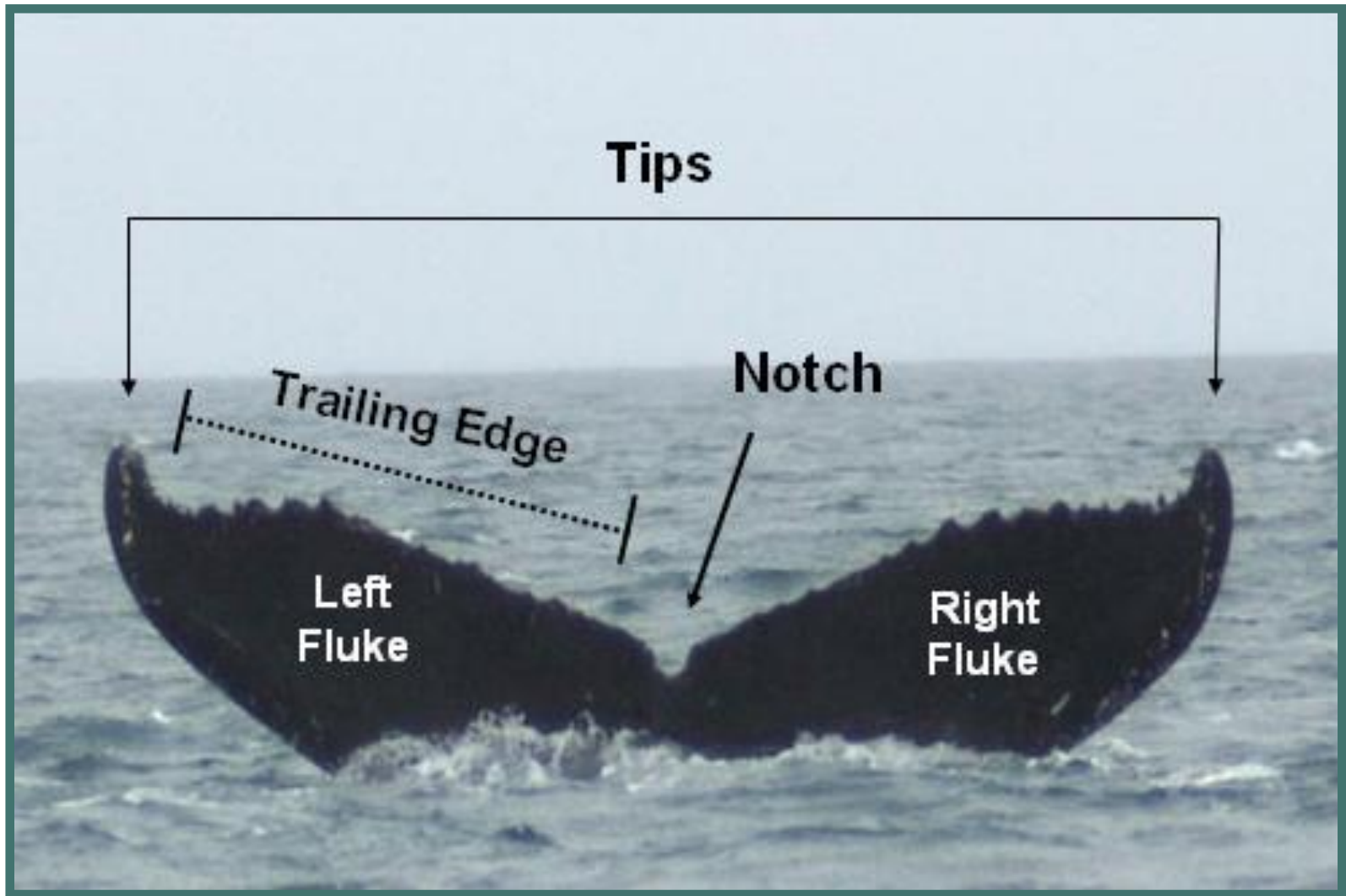


Humans can use cameras with zoom lenses to take a picture of the bottom side of their flukes. Amazingly, there are no two whales with the same pattern on their flukes.

We can use these pictures to tell them apart, learn about where each whale goes, how they eat, notice if they have babies, how old they are, and much more!



Dive in and see if you can tell them apart!



Each whale has a pair of flukes - a right fluke and a left fluke.
Here are some other words we use to describe flukes.

Both the color and SHAPE of flukes can be different.



Tips on Matching Flukes

Scars can change a little over time, but are still important when matching flukes. White skin scars to black and black skin scars to white.



Shadows can hide scars. Below are two photos of the same whale with different lighting. Be sure to also look at the trailing (or top) edge for clues when matching.





They call me Flame. I LOVE North Pass. I am a mama and I have had several babies. Each humpback baby stays with their moms for about one year...

Can you find my match?





They call me Spot- can you guess why? I am sometimes silly and curious...
Can you find my match?



They call me Skuff, probably because
I seem to keep getting scratches on
my flukes...
Can you find my match?





They call me Barnacles. Did you know that the circular scars on my flukes come from a type of acorn barnacle found **ONLY** on humpback whales...
Can you find my match?



E



D



A



B



C



They call me Sasha and if you look close, it looks like there are the letters "A" and "K" on my left fluke. I survived an entanglement in rope that left a long scar on my back... Can you find my match?





They call me Dot Spot. I have these bright white flukes. Did you know that when white skin gets a scar, it shows up black and when black skin gets a scar, it shows up white...
Can you find my match?



A



B



C



D



E

They call me Cornucopia. I like to feed on herring with a big group of all my friends. We call this group feast "bubble net feeding"...
Can you find my match?

They call me Juneauite because I love spending my summers in Juneau. I have all black flukes and you will have to look at my trailing edge to recognize me... Can you find my match?





KEY: Flame=E / Spot=C / Skuff=B / Barnacles=B / Sasha=D /
Dot Spot=D / Cornucopia=E / Juneauite=A