



Cornish Seal Sanctuary



Seals and Sea Lions

Answer Book

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Introduction

The Cornish Seal Sanctuary is a charity that rescues and rehabilitates seal pup from around the Cornish Coastline.

Did you know that we've been rescuing sick and injured pups since 1958?!

The Sanctuary started in the winter of 1958 when a baby seal, only a few hours old, was washed up on the beach at St Agnes. Ken Jones lived with his wife Mary next to the beach, he picked up the pup and took it back to his small garden.

For many years, he ran a rescue centre for seals, with just one pool, at St Agnes. The news of his work with seals spread, and he received more and more calls about injured seals. Ken realised he needed more room, as the single pool at St Agnes was just not big enough. Ken had to find a larger site to build a permanent rescue centre and was offered land by the beautiful river Helford in Gweek.

Each season, the Sanctuary rehabilitates between 50 to 70 seal pups each costing on average £2,000 to be rehabilitated. The Sanctuary also provides a permanent home to animals that need special care from their team of marine animal experts.

When visiting the Sanctuary, you can experience wonderful marine animals up close and personal and learn all about their individual stories.

There's plenty to learn too! We offer guided tours, school workshops and school holiday clubs. Plus, you can head over to Discovery Cove, mixing learning with play, you can enjoy a variety of activities which are both fun and educational.

Hi! My name's Lily!

**I am the learning buddy for the
Cornish Seal Sanctuary.**

**If you see me in your workbook, I
might have a handy hint for you!**



We Are Family

Seals evolved 15 million years ago!
They are part of the **pinniped** group.

Like humans, seals are mammals so share some of the same characteristics.

How do we know if an animal is a mammal?

Write **three** things that identify mammals in the box below:

Any of the following answers:

- *Has a backbone/spine*
- *Warm blooded*
- *Has fur or hair*
- *Has live babies/does not lay eggs*

Did you know that there are 33 different species of seal in the world?



Seals, Sea Lions and Walrus

In the Pinniped group (seals), there are 3 families:

- True Seal (grey, common)
- Eared Seal (sea lion)
- Walrus

Can you match the pictures to family?



True Seal



Walrus



Eared Seal

Two of a Kind

There are two species of seals found around the UK.

They are Common Seals and Grey Seals.

What are the differences between Common and Grey Seals? We've started the first one for you.



Common Seals

They have 'V' shaped nostrils

Smaller – ½ size of grey seal

Lighter fur

Pups in spring/summer

Pups born with swimming coat



Grey Seals

Their nostrils do not meet up

Larger than common seals

Darker fur

Pups in autumn/winter

Pups born with white fur

You can see both Common and Grey Seals at The Cornish Seal Sanctuary



Seal Body Parts

Look at the seal. Can you label his body parts using the words below?

flipper

whiskers

tail

ear

nose

eye

eye

ear

flipper

nose

whiskers

tail

A seals' body is designed to help
when they swim



Can you fill in the blanks using only the words at the bottom of the page?

- 1) A seal's nose is kept **closed** when they are underwater.
- 2) A seal's mouth is big; this means they can swallow their fish **whole**.
- 3) A seal's whiskers are **long** and they can feel things with them.
- 4) A seal's eyes are **open** underwater.
- 5) A seal's front flippers are **short** and lie against their body.
- 6) A seal's back flippers are **webbed**.

backwards

open

closed

webbed

long

whole

holes

short

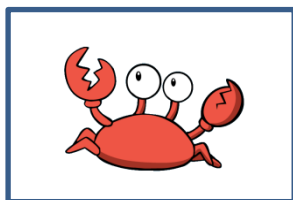
What Do You Know About Seals?

Tick the boxes next to the right answers.

1) Food

Seals feed on fish, but also sometimes on other things. What do you think they might feed on?

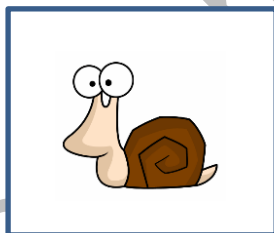
Crabs

☒

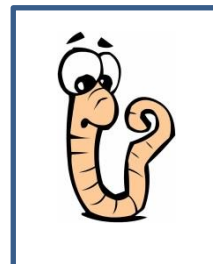
Seaweed

☐

Snails

☐

Worms

☐

Did you know that seals have sharp claws on their flippers?



2) Swimming

Which part of a seal's body is used for swimming?

Head ☐

Tail ☐

Tummy ☐

Flippers ☒



3) Underwater

How long do you think seals usually hold their breath for?

Fifteen Minutes ☒

Three Hours ☐

Five Seconds ☐

One Hour ☐

4) On Land

Which part of the body do seals use the most to move on land?

Head ☐

Tail ☐

Tummy ☒

Back ☐



5) Keeping Warm

What do you think keeps seals warm?

Fat ☒

Skin ☐

Flippers ☐

Bones ☐

6) Males and Females

How can we tell the difference between male and female Grey Seals?

Put the descriptions in the right column.

Males	Females
<i>Big Noses</i>	<i>Spotty Tummies</i>
<i>Darker Coats</i>	<i>Cream Coloured Bellies</i>

Big Noses Spotty Tummies Darker Coats
Cream Coloured Bellies

7) Mothers

How old will the females be before they have babies themselves?

1 year old ☐

10 years old ☐

4 years old ☒

2 years old ☐

8) Babies

What time of year do Grey Seals have their babies?

Spring and Summer ☐

Autumn and Winter ☒



9) Mum and Pup

How long will the mother be with her pup before she leaves it to live alone?

3 Days ☐

3 Weeks ☒

3 Months ☐

3 Years ☐

10) Big and Fat

It is important that seal pups are big and fat. How heavy should they be when mum leaves them?



The same as (If a bag of sugar weighs 0.5kg):

10 bags of sugar? ☐

5 bags of sugar? ☐

50 bags of sugar? ☒

100 bags of sugar? ☐

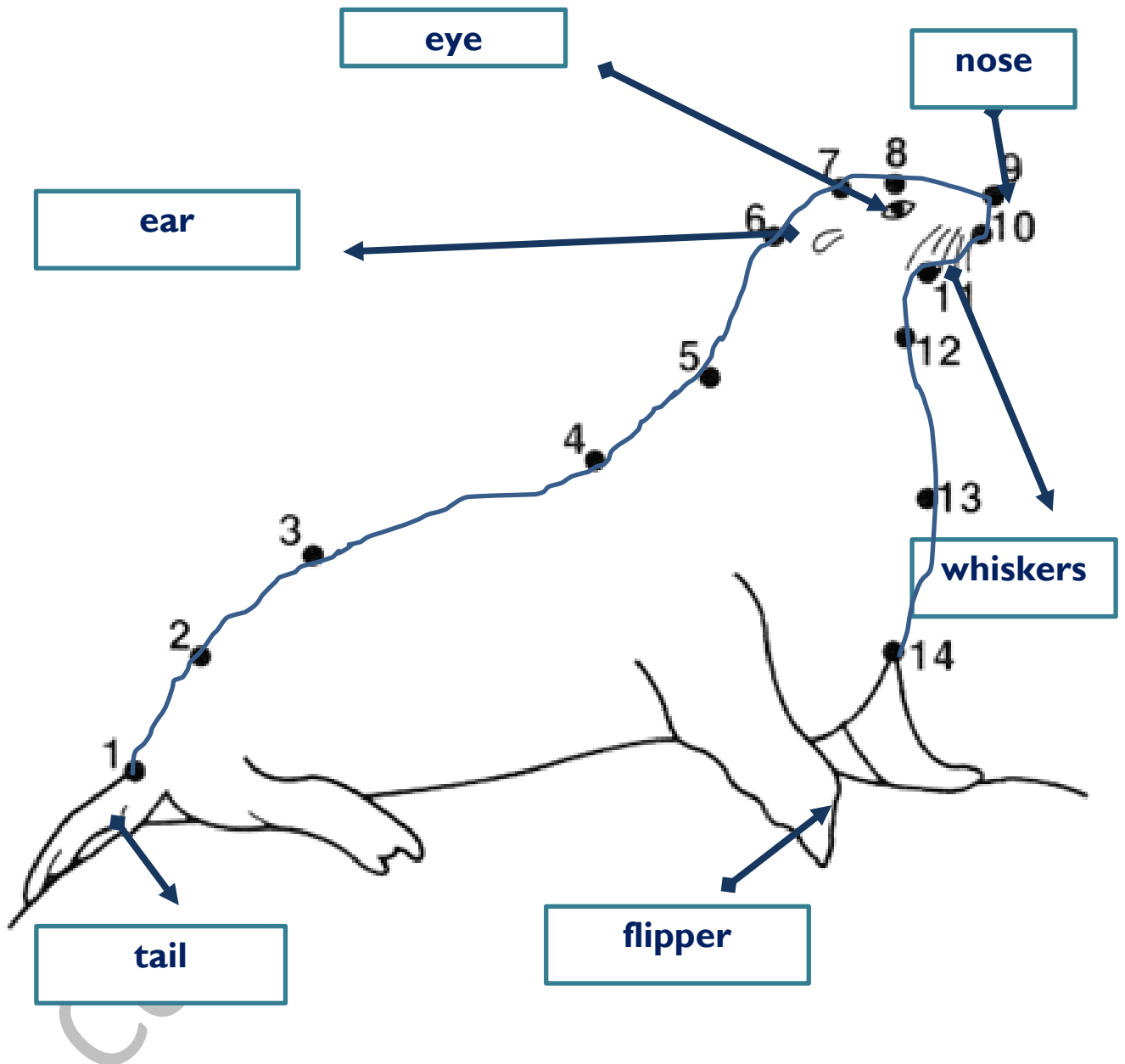
As well as **true seals**, The Cornish Seal Sanctuary is home to **California Sea Lions** and **Southern Sea Lions**!

Why not come and pay them a visit?



Sea Lions

Join the dots to find the sea lion and label the key features.



What kind of sea lion is this?

Answer: *California Sea Lion*

How Are They Different?

Can you remember the differences between a seal and a sea lion?

Read the list below and tick if they describe a seal or a sea lion?

	Seals	Sea Lions
Walk on their flippers		/
Don't have ear flaps	/	
Crawl on their tummies	/	
Live in colder climates	/	
Have ear flaps		/
Live in warmer climates		/

Climate is the kind of weather found in a certain place over many years.

An area's climate will affect the kinds of plants and animals that can survive there.



Activity Centre

How many words can you make out of the words **Seal Sanctuary**?

We've done one to start you off!

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| 1. class | 6. cause |
| 2. curly | 7. cutlery |
| 3. aunty | 8. casualty |
| 4. clear | 9. crystal |
| 5. clay | 10. Classy |

Seals and Sea Lions word search:



crab fat fur pup sea lion ear fish milk

water eye flipper nose seal whiskers walrus

Activity Time

Lots of animals live in the sea. Draw your favourite here!

Send your drawings in to us at
The Cornish Seal Sanctuary to be
featured on our social media:
Bek.Trehern@sealifetrust.com



What Does That Word Mean?

Use this space to write down any words you don't understand.

Can you find them in the dictionary?

Word:

Definition:

Word:

Definition:

Word:

Definition:

Word:

Definition:

Word:

Definition:

Word:

Definition:

Learn More at The Cornish Seal Sanctuary



There's plenty more to explore. Combining active learning with fascinating talks and an opportunity to have a close encounter with a variety of animals.

Want to learn more? Calling All Ocean Lovers!

Take part in jam packed sessions during School Holidays and discover all about:

- Seals and Sea Lions and the environment they live in
- Seal pup rescue, rehabilitation and release
- Our resident animals and how we care for them
- Local wildlife
- Marine conservation

Support the Sanctuary

Enjoyed learning with The Cornish Seal Sanctuary?

Did you know that we're a charity?

Every year, we rescue seal pups in need of care from around the coastline. Each pup costs on Average £2,000 to rehabilitate and that doesn't include those that need specific operations. We also care for lots of animals who can't be released.



We are grateful for any donation received. Your money could go a long way to helping our animals get the care they really need.

To help text SEAL 5 to 70085 to make a £5 donation.
Or donate on our website: sealsanctuary.sealifetrust.org

Thank you for your support, we would not be able to do this vital work without you!

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