

**Blue Whales Fact Sheet**

The blue whale is the largest known animal to have ever existed.

Blue Whales are mammals

Did you know blue whales secrete earwax throughout their lives and their age is most reliably measured using the layers which form with these ear plugs!

Whales have blow holes which are like nostrils- after each breath, the blowhole is sealed by muscles around it so water does not get in.

Whales can sneeze but not like humans- if something gets caught in their ‘nose’ they will clear it by blowing it out through their blow-hole

The maximum age of a blue whale is about 73 years

Their diet consists almost exclusively of euphausiids which is also known as krill

Blue whales are solitary but sometimes gather in small groups

They have been *endangered* as of 2018

**Now it is your turn….**

Choose an animal to research

What are your three favourite facts about the animal you chose?