



WHALE SONG AND STEAM ACTIVITIES  
CREATED FOR CABRILLO MARINE AQUARIUM  
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## WHALE SONG + ACTIVITIES

STEP 1 - PREPARE FOR YOUR WHALE SONG:

LISTEN TO THE FOLLOWING WHALE SOUNDS + SONGS:

[Blue Whale Sounds](#)

[Humpback Whale Sounds](#)

[Gray Whale Sounds](#)

IF YOU NEED TO LEARN (OR REMEMBER) THE SONG 'DAY O' YOU CAN FIND A LINK HERE:

['Day O' - Harry Belefonte](#)

CHECK IT OUT!

if you would like to learn more about the Song 'Day O' Read this article about the Songwriter, Irving Burgie, who adapted the traditional folk song for Recording:

[Irving Burgie - New York Times](#)

## Whale Song

*(Sing to the tune of Day 'O / The Banana Boat Song)*

Whale Song, Whale Song

OOOhhhh OOOOhhh

Whale! Sing a whale, sing a whale

Sing a whale, sing a whale

Sing a whale song

OOOhhhh OOOOhhhh

Swim all day and catch the krill!

Tide is High! Sing the Blue Whale song

Their songs can travel around the world!

Tide is High! Sing the Blue Whale song

We're sixty foot foot, seventy foot, eighty foot Long!

Tide is High! Sing the Blue Whale song

The largest animal that ever lived!

Tide is High! Sing the Blue Whale song

Whale Song! Sing a Whale Song!

OOOhhhh OOOOhhh *(Blue Whale: extra low ooohhs)*

Whale!

Sing a whale, sing a whale

Sing a whale, sing a whale,

Sing a whale song

OOOhhhh OOOOhhhh *(Blue Whale: extra low ooohhs)*



Make a bubble net and catch the fish  
*Tide is high! Sing the Humpback Whale song!*  
Hawaii in the winter to Alaska in the summer!  
*Tide is high! Sing the Humpback Whale song!*

Breach real high, make a big big splash!  
*Tide is high! Sing the Humpback Whale song!*  
*We're thirty Foot, forty Foot, fifty Foot Long!*  
*Tide is high! Sing the Humpback Whale song!*

*Whale Song! Sing a Whale Song!*  
*OOOhhhh OOOOOhhh (Humpback Whale: high, operatic, rollercoaster oohhs)*  
*Whale!*  
*Sing a whale, sing a whale*  
*Sing a whale, sing a whale*  
*Sing a whale song*  
*OOOhhhh OOOOOhhhh (Humpback Whale: high, operatic, rollercoaster oohhs)*

*Travel from Alaska to the Baja Lagoons!*  
*Tide is High! Sing the Gray Whale song*  
*Gray whales are born in San Ignacio!*  
*Tide is High! Sing the Gray Whale song*

*Scoop up the mud and eat the tasty amphipods!*  
*Tide is High! Sing the Gray whale song*  
*We're Twenty foot, Thirty foot, Forty foot long!*  
*Tide is High! Sing the Gray Whale song*



*Whale Song! Sing a Whale Song!*

*OOOhhhh OOOOOhhh (Gray Whale: high pitched, squeaky oohhs, clicks, and more!)*

*Whale!*

*Sing a whale, sing a whale*

*Sing a whale, sing a whale*

*Sing a whale song*

*OOOhhhh OOOOOhhh (Gray Whale: high pitched, squeaky oohhs, clicks, and more!)*

## WHALE SONG EXTENSIONS:

### WRITE YOUR OWN VERSES OR WRITE A NEW WHALE SONG!

You can add in verses to the whale song, or write a new song using your favorite melody and modeled after some of the lyric that happen in that song. Just think ‘What Would a Whale Do?’ It could be silly or accurate and scientific or a little bit of both!

## ANALYZING WHALE MUSIC:

Listen again to the whale songs or find more recordings of the same or new whales. Explore making sounds that remind you of whales:

- Do you have a piano or other instrument at home?
- Can you pick out pitches the whales are using, even if it’s in a different octave than what you can make? Do you know what the names of those notes are? If you do write it down!

- Can you make any of these sounds with your voice?
- Do any of the whales sound like they are singing?
- Can you match the pitch (the note) with your voice to these sounds? Experiment just to learn more about how similar or different these sounds are from what we can make. Whale sounds are usually much *louder* than what humans can make, but *sometimes* they are within the same pitch range and octaves that we can make sounds in.

## WHERE THE WILD VOICE IS!

Many animals and mammals (that includes whales and humans) can create many different sounds with their voices. We can skip around pitches, and create sounds and patterns that are unusual and interesting. Practice your ‘Wild Voice’ and play around with sounds you can make. Be careful to be nice to your voice. If something hurts don’t do it. But if it is easy to do, make some sound!

### NOTES ON THE HUMAN VOICE:

An individual human voice can typically make sounds within 2.5 octave range. Some individuals might be able to have more range and some less.

**The lowest human voices** classified as ‘Bass’ voices can make sounds around second E below **middle C** to the E above middle C (i.e.,  $E_2-E_4$ ). Some individual voices can sing lower and higher.



**The highest human voices** classified as Soprano voices can make sounds around approximately middle C to "high A" ( $A_5$ ) = 880 Hz in **choral music**, or to "soprano C" ( $C_4$ -  $C_6$ ) two **octaves** above middle C) = 1046 Hz or higher in **operatic** music.

Many human voices overlap within the middle of these ranges too. And every voice is different and unique, but there are many categories that are used to help understand the human vocal ranges, and the patterns that are seen over and over again with peoples available ranges.

## WHAT CAN YOU LEARN ABOUT YOUR VOICE BY IMITATING OTHER ANIMALS?

Can you howl like a wolf? Have you ever tried to make the different sounds of coyote calling? What about fish! Many fish make sounds underwater!

You might make a list of animals, look up sounds they make, and then go down the list and make notes about those sounds, try and imitate those sounds.

Research some of your favorite animals, and see what kind of sound they make. Then see if you can mimic those sounds!

## HAVE FUN LEARNING ABOUT ANIMAL SOUNDS AND FINDING YOUR WILD VOICE!