

Narwhal

By *Araceli*

Classification - The Narwhal is classified as a mammal. It is listed under the family of whales and dolphins. Also known as the toothed whale because of its long ivory tusk.

Habitat - The Narwhal whale lives in ice cold waters of the Arctic seas, mostly in Greenland to mid-eastern Canada. Rarely do they wander away from ice.

Size - Male Narwhal whales can reach up to 16 feet. They weigh about 1.8 tons. The female whale is slightly smaller, averaging about 13 feet and weighing about 1 ton.

Food - Narwhals have a very simple diet. They like to eat shrimp, squid, fish and other small marine animals. If caught or guarded the Narwhal will be a nice meal for polar bears, Orcas, sharks and walrus.

Young - A female narwhal gives birth about every 3 years to one calf. The female is pregnant for 10-16 months, from the months of April to July of the next year. The calves are born without spots. The calf will nurse for about 4 months after birth.

5 Facts

1. The Narwhal is known as the "Unicorn of the Sea."
2. Narwhal means "corpse Whale."
3. The Narwhal's tusk can reach up to 9 feet long.
4. The Narwhal's skin is a mix of white, green, and brown spots.
5. The Narwhal uses its forehead to sense the echo in the waves.

