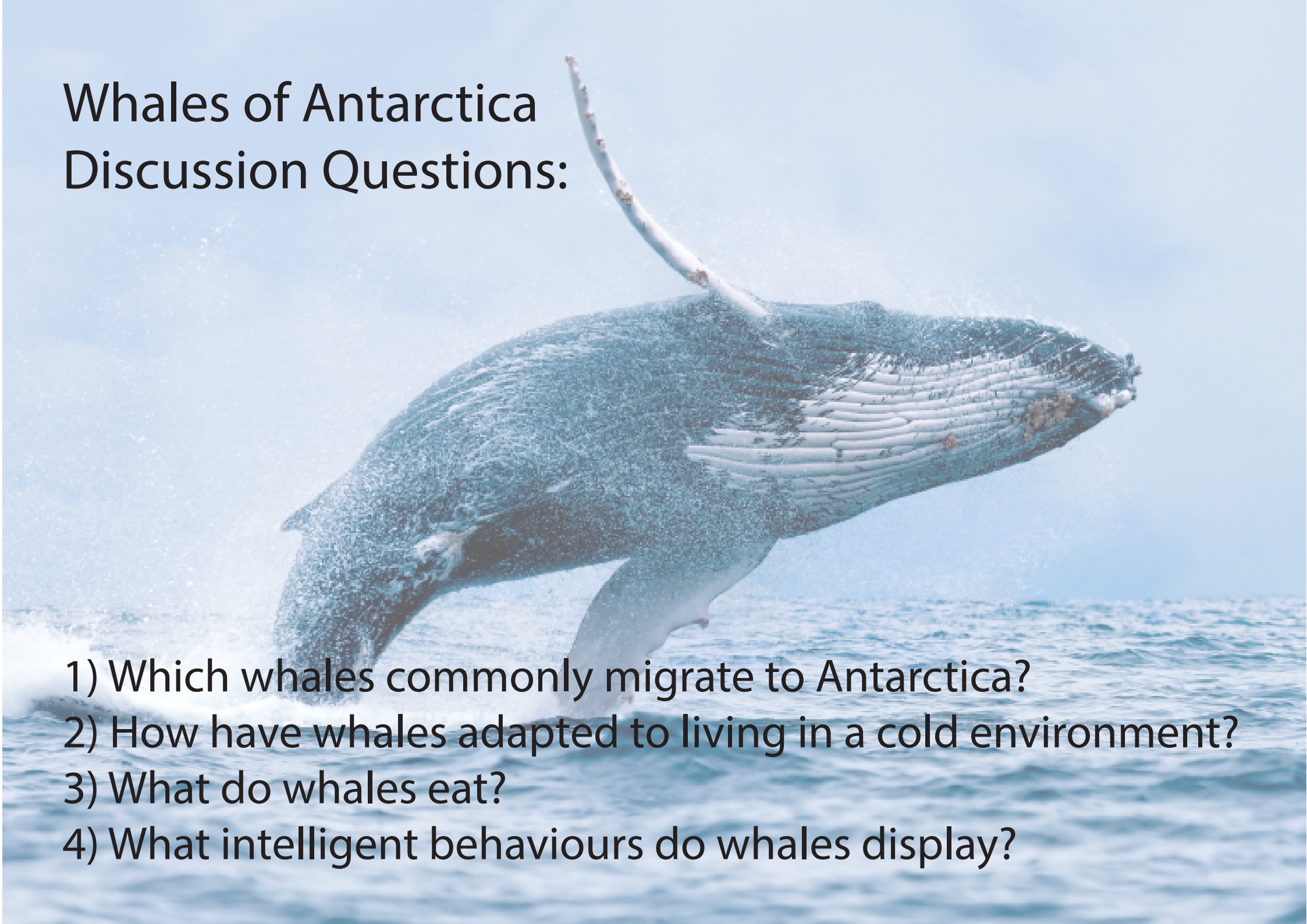


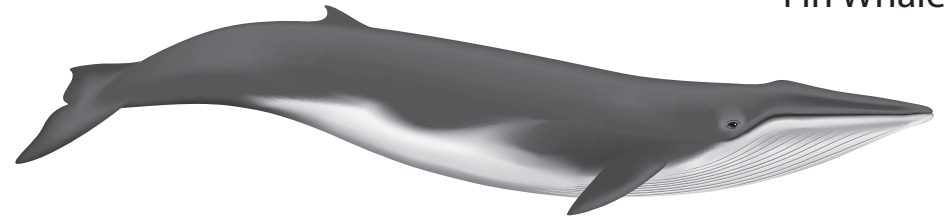
# Whales of Antarctica

## Discussion Questions:

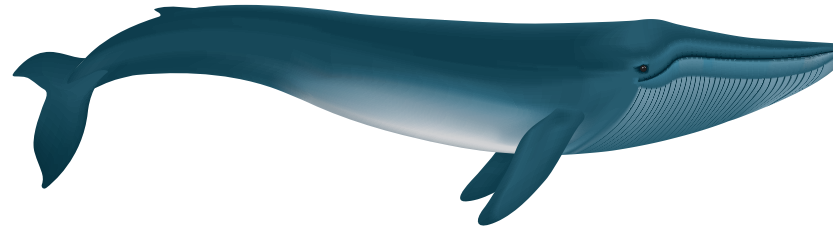
- 
- 1) Which whales commonly migrate to Antarctica?
  - 2) How have whales adapted to living in a cold environment?
  - 3) What do whales eat?
  - 4) What intelligent behaviours do whales display?

# *Whales that live in the Antarctic Region*

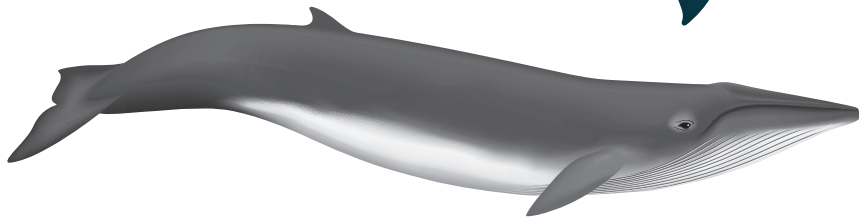
Fin Whale



Blue Whale



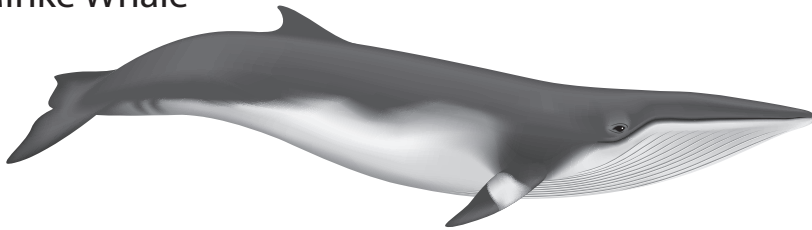
Sei Whale



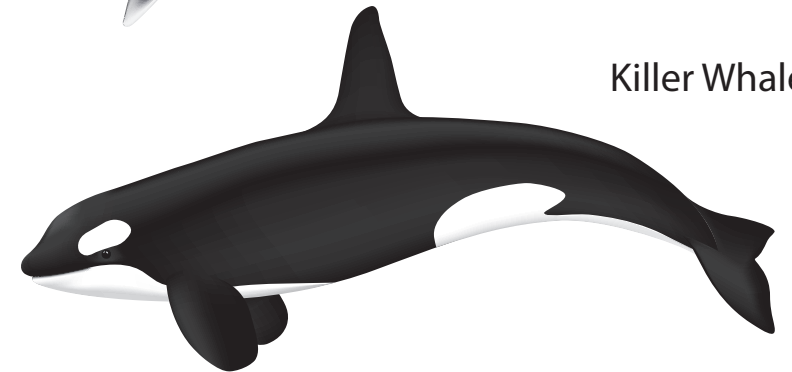
Humpback Whale



Minke Whale



Killer Whale



Southern Right Whale





There are many species of whale that live in the Antarctic region during the summer months. They migrate during the winter months to breed and give birth in the warmer waters to the north.

Whales have a thick layer of fat called 'blubber' that insulates their body against the cold. They have blowholes (nostrils) that they breathe through and can close when diving.

There are two types of whales: toothed whales and baleen whales. Both types are represented in Antarctica. Baleen whales have a comb-like structure that they use to filter krill and small fish from the water. Toothed whales such as the killer whale hunt for fish and small animals like penguins.

Krill are a major source of food for many baleen whales.



Whales are very intelligent creatures. They have excellent vision and are curious about their surroundings. A whale will pop its head out of the water to take a look around. This behaviour is called 'spyhopping'.



Whales are social animals. They communicate by 'singing' to each other. Their whale songs can be heard underwater for great distances. Female whales can be seen in northern waters travelling with their calves on their way back to Antarctica.

