

Show Me Science

The Wonders of Oceanography

Dolphins

**How they Live,
Learn & Communicate**

For a complete list of Educational programs, please visit
our website at www.tmwmedia.com



TMW MEDIA GROUP
2321 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
(310) 577-8581 Fax: (310) 574-0886
Email: sale@tmwmedia.com Web: www.tmwmedia.com
"Producers & Distributors of Quality Educational Media"

© 2012 TMW Media Group, Inc.

**K4595DVD
Teachers Guide**

SYNOPSIS:

This program profiles dolphins and some of the studies researchers are conducting to learn whether dolphin behavior is a result of instinct or intelligence. It starts with the characteristics we share as mammals, explains how dolphins use sonar to make their way underwater, live in social groups called “pods,” and communicate with various clicking sounds and whistles.

CURRICULUM UNITS:

Animal behavior	Psychology
Communication	Scientific Method
General Science	Sociology
Marine Biology	Zoology
Oceanography	

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Animal Trainer	Oceanographer
Audiologist	Psychologist
Mammologist	Researcher
Marine Biologist	Veterinarian

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

As mammals, humans and dolphins share a number of important biological characteristics. Both species are warm-blooded, have body hair, breathe air, give live birth and nurse their young. But is it possible that we have more in common? Do they like us? Can they reason and solve problems? Just how intelligent are these gentle marine mammals? In this program, join marine scientists from Florida to Hawaii who are trying to answer these and other questions about dolphins by studying how they live, learn and communicate.

ISSUES & CRITICAL THINKING:

1. Review the five characteristics mammals share and discuss the similarities and differences between humans and dolphins.
2. Discuss the benefits associated with studying captive rather than wild dolphins. Are there advantages to studying animals in the wild? Talk about the rarity of dolphin research centers and the special knowledge caring for dolphins demands.
3. Define and discuss animal and mechanically-generated sonar. How does synthetic sonar help us “see” underwater objects?

GLOSSARY:

Autism – A brain disorder which prevents development of motor, social and verbal skills.

Control Group – In research, the subjects that do not get the treatment or change that those in the experimental group do.

Instinct – A natural ability or aptitude.

Intelligence – The ability to think and reason, to acquire knowledge and apply it.

Mammal – Any species of animals that are warm-blooded, breathe air, have body hair and milk producing glands and bear live young.

Marine Mammal – Mammals that live in the seas and oceans.

Mimic – To copy or closely imitate sounds, expressions or gestures of another being.

POD – A school of marine mammals such as dolphins or whales.

Signature Whistle – The distinctive, short whistle-like sound bursts unique to every dolphin.

Sonar – Transmitting and receiving sound waves to detect and locate submerged objects.