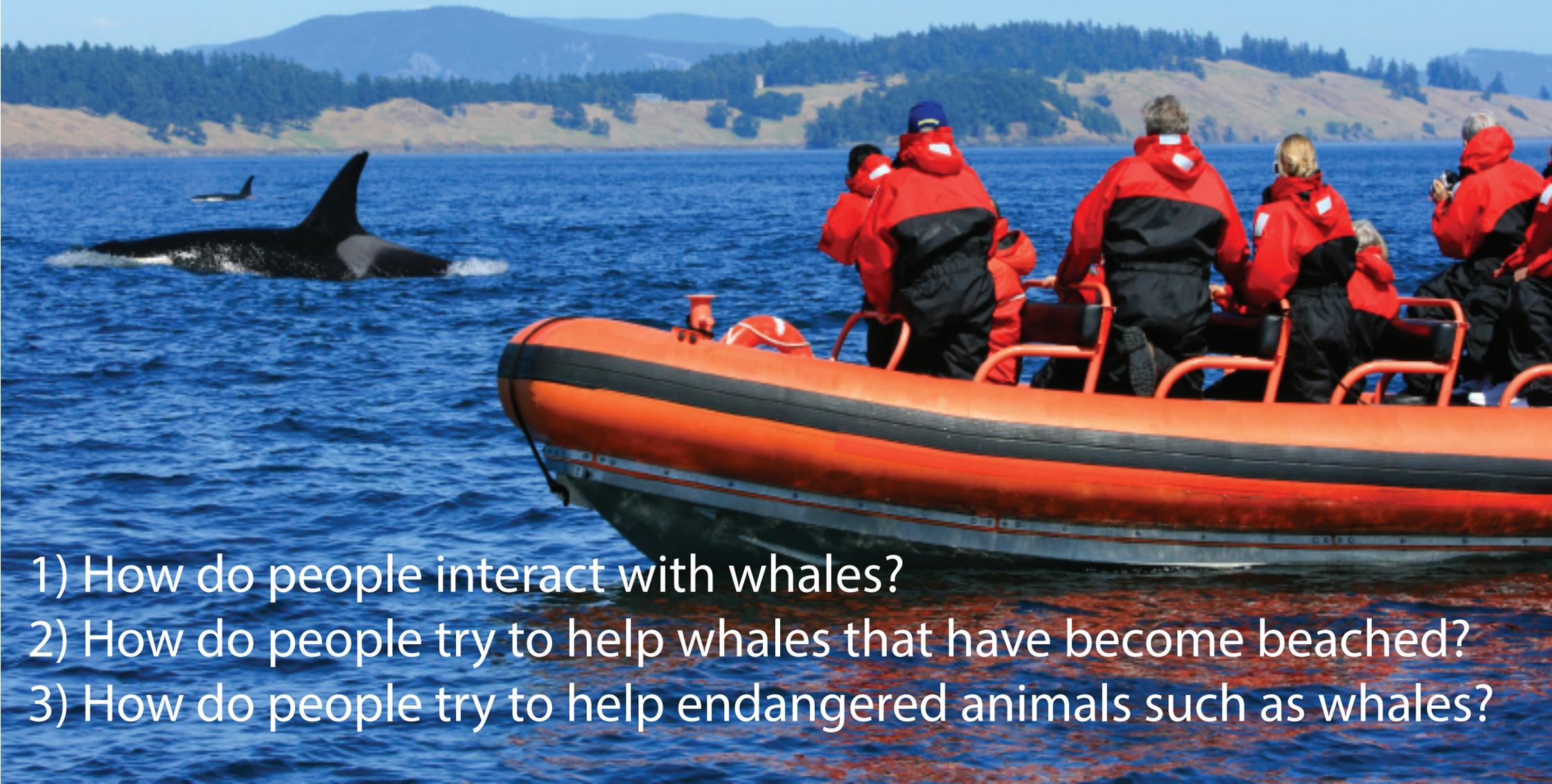


Whales and People

Discussion Questions



- 1) How do people interact with whales?
- 2) How do people try to help whales that have become beached?
- 3) How do people try to help endangered animals such as whales?

Whales and Tourism

Tourist companies run 'whale watching' tours in many places throughout the world. People enjoy seeing these magnificent animals in their natural environment as they migrate between cool and warm waters.



Occasionally whales become stuck in shallow waters. They cannot swim back to sea if they become 'beached'. People help stranded whales by keeping them cool with wet towels. Sometimes they can be redirected back to the sea with the next high tide. Nobody knows why whales beach themselves. Some scientists believe it could be because sonar systems used by the navy interfere with the whale's navigation senses.



Whale Protection Organisations

Protecting whale populations is a global issue. We are all responsible for ensuring that endangered animals are protected so that their populations can increase over time.

Many countries are members of the International Whaling Commission. Those countries have signed an agreement to reduce the impact of humans on whale populations. Government support is crucial to achieving this goal.

There are also many private organisations that are dedicated to ending whaling and protecting whale species. Many of them rely on volunteers to help raise awareness of environmental issues that affect whale populations.

Find out which organisations are active in your area of the world.

What can you do to help whales?

