

Teacher's Text

**Table 6.1.** Important anatomical features of marine mammals

	<b>Cetaceans</b>		<b>Sirenians</b>	<b>Carnivorans</b>		
	<b>Odontocete</b>	<b>Mysticetes</b>	<b>Manatees and Dugongs</b>	<b>Pinnipeds</b>	<b>Otters</b>	<b>Polar Bear</b>
<b>Respiration</b>	Lungs	Lungs	Lungs	Lungs	Lungs	Lungs
<b>Circulatory</b>	Four-chambered heart	Four-chambered heart	Four-chambered heart	Four-chambered heart	Four-chambered heart	Four-chambered heart
<b>Skeletal</b>	Hard bony skeleton	Hard bony skeleton	Hard bony skeleton	Hard bony skeleton	Hard bony skeleton	Hard bony skeleton
<b>Hind limbs</b>	None externally; only internal vestigial structures remain			Modified hind limbs into flippers	Slightly modified can still walk on land	
<b>Fore limbs</b>	Two flippers	Two flippers	Two flippers	Two flippers	Two short limbs with sharp claws	Two short limbs with sharp claws
<b>Hair</b>	Very sparse hair			Fur		
<b>Body shape</b>	Streamlined				Common tetrapod body plan	
<b>Head shape</b>	Streamlined					
<b>Nostrils</b>	Blowhole	Blowhole				
<b>Blubber</b>	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent	
<b>Teeth</b>	Sharp bony teeth	Baleen	Flat bony teeth	Sharp bony teeth	Sharp bony teeth	