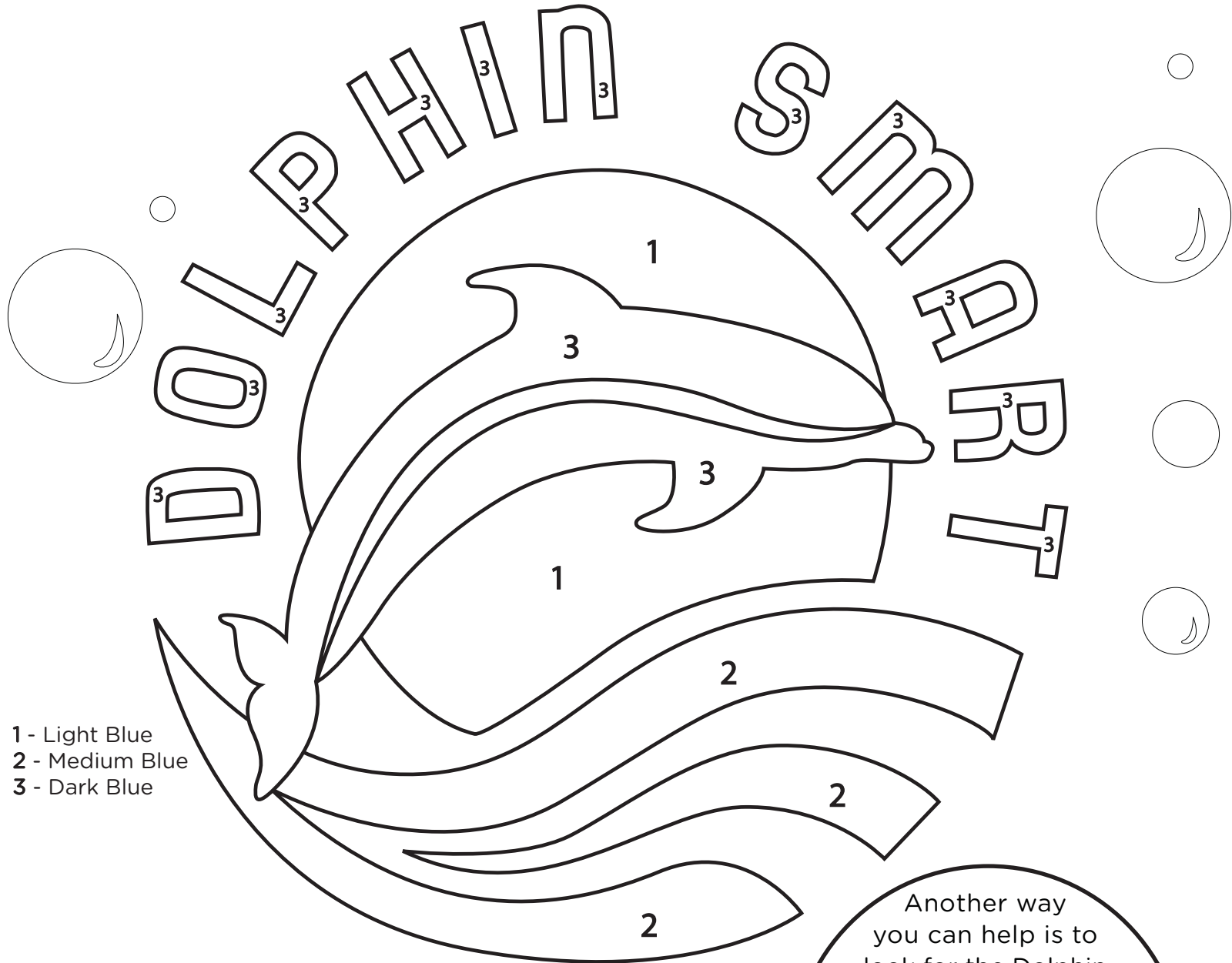
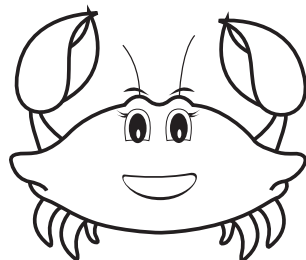


# Are you Dolphin SMART?

We all love seeing dolphins in the wild! There are many ways we can enjoy seeing dolphins in the wild without disturbing them. Dolphin SMART is a program that helps boats viewing wild dolphins to view them without harming them in any way: this is called responsible viewing. To learn more about the Dolphin SMART program, visit [www.dolphinSMART.org](http://www.dolphinSMART.org). You too can learn how to be a Dolphin SMART viewer. Responsibly viewing wild dolphins is one of the main ways you can help protect dolphins in the wild and be a steward for dolphin conservation. Being a steward means you are helping to protect the environment and dolphins.



- 1 - Light Blue
- 2 - Medium Blue
- 3 - Dark Blue



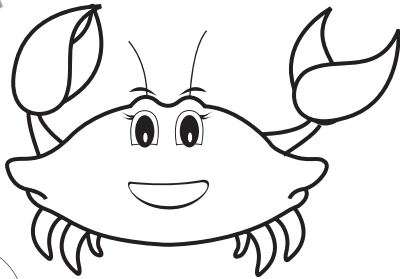
Another way you can help is to look for the Dolphin SMART flag or decal next time you go on vacation or a dolphin viewing tour boat. If a boat is flying the Dolphin SMART flag, you know they are responsibly viewing and protecting wild dolphins.

# Dolphin SMART Word search

Read the clues about how to be Dolphin SMART and find the **bold** words.

## Why is responsible viewing important?

Responsible viewing is a way to make sure dolphins are not harassed from your viewing activity. When a dolphin is in danger of being injured or their behaviors are disturbed, this is called harassment. When dolphins behaviors are disturbed, they may be prevented from or stop eating, sleeping, traveling, taking care of their babies, making babies, or even breathing.



To practice **responsible** viewing, don't get too close to dolphins! It is very important that you stay further than 50 yards away while in your boat. **Fifty** yards is the length of six school buses or half a football field!

Enjoy **viewing** wild dolphins for a little, while but be sure not to stay longer than **thirty** minutes.

Allow the dolphins **room** to swim! But, if dolphins come near, use caution and make sure the boat's **engine** is in neutral, and let the dolphins swim away on their own.

**Feeding** dolphins is illegal because it may lead to injuries from getting caught in fishing lines and hooks or being hit by boats. Dolphins will also learn to come to people and boats for food which can put them in danger. Finally, Babies may also not learn how to hunt for fish on their own.

Don't **swim** with, touch, or pet wild **dolphins**. It is not safe for you or the dolphins! Dolphins are known to bite people if they are teased.

Stay a further distance away from Mother dolphins that have babies with them. A baby dolphin is called a **calf**.

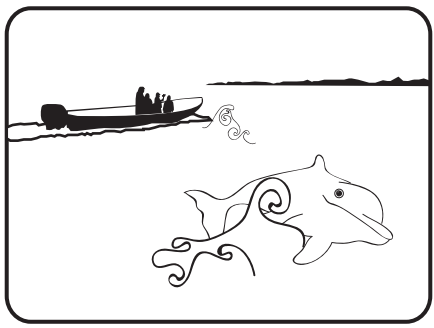
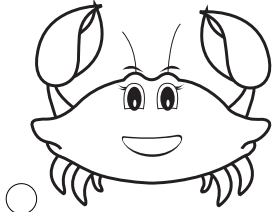
You can tell that a dolphin is harassed or when **disturbance** is occurring when they do certain behaviors; these include forcibly exhaling; slapping their tail on the water's surface many times in a row; trying to avoid your boat; changing their speed or direction; repeated **breaching**; or staying under water for long periods of time.

When you see a dolphin in the wild, be sure to move your **boat** slowly and always leave slowly.

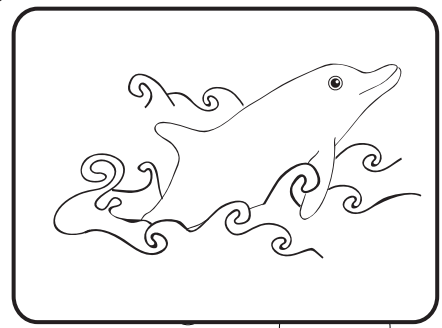
Help keep our ocean **clean!** You can help clean up by participating in marine trash and beach clean-ups, and always recycle.

F	F	J	P	P	N	L	O	K	E	M	O	R	C	K
E	J	C	A	W	Z	U	Y	J	C	O	N	T	I	B
E	G	A	G	B	D	E	U	M	N	O	Y	Q	G	N
D	G	L	N	R	Y	R	K	R	A	R	O	V	J	V
I	A	F	I	E	U	U	O	L	B	P	O	F	E	C
N	S	Z	W	A	C	S	Y	I	R	B	J	V	N	M
G	N	N	E	C	L	W	T	H	U	W	S	F	G	E
H	I	T	I	H	E	M	R	A	T	J	J	X	I	L
A	H	B	V	I	A	I	I	G	S	D	J	V	N	C
K	P	J	S	N	N	W	H	M	I	W	D	C	E	I
F	L	U	M	G	Z	S	T	H	D	X	W	Q	R	G
F	O	U	A	A	Q	G	Q	M	P	K	M	Q	C	C
I	D	I	R	E	L	B	I	S	N	O	P	S	E	R
H	C	J	T	M	O	T	P	E	C	Z	R	J	G	Y
Y	T	R	F	I	F	T	Y	C	G	B	T	A	O	B

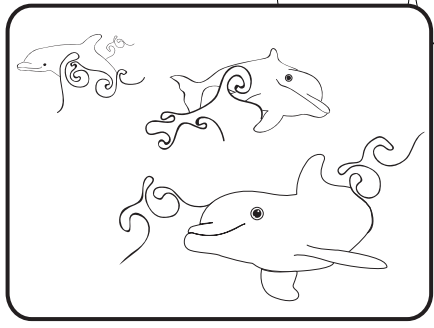
Below are dolphin behaviors that may show a dolphin is being disturbed; **match the behavior to the picture:**



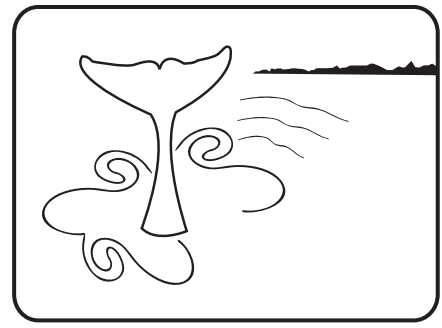
**Quickly changing the speed or direction that they are swimming**



**Repeatedly slapping their tails on the water**



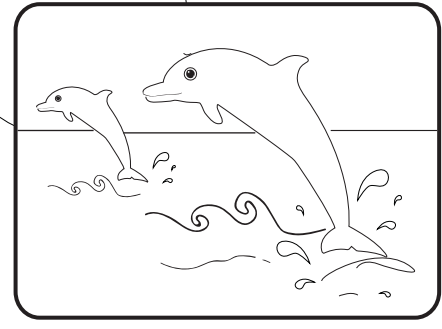
**Mother attempting to protect her baby with her body**



**Making loud exhaling noises at surface**

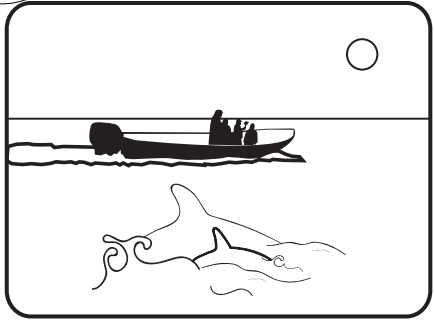


**Swimming extremely fast at the surface**

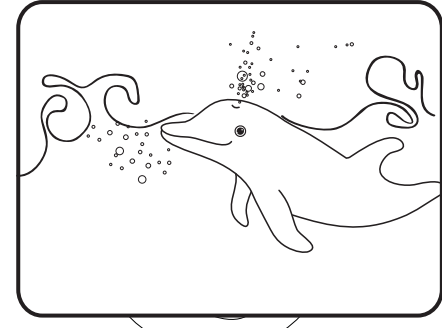


**Trying to avoid or move away from a boat**

**Repeated breaching**

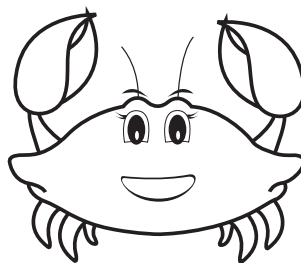


**Dolphins become separated or leave their groups**

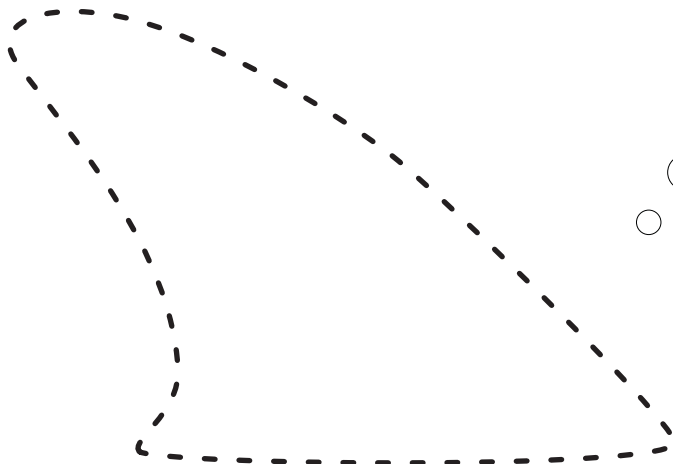
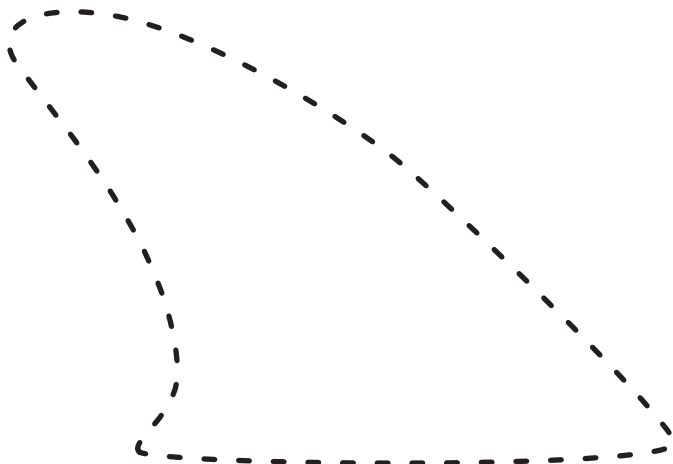
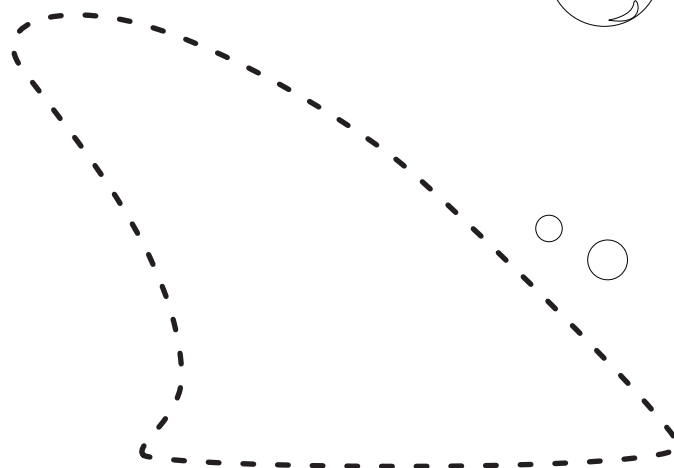
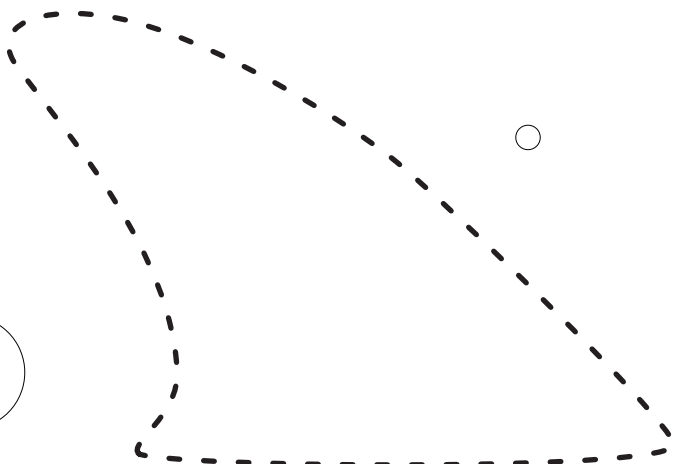


# Dorsal Fins

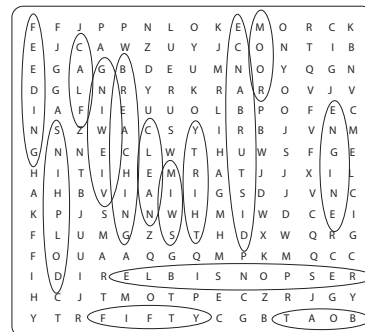
**A dolphin's fin is like a human fingerprint.** A dolphin's fin has different notches and nicks, so scientists who study dolphins are able to identify individual dolphins by their fin. By identifying dolphins, scientists can count how many dolphins are in an area, where dolphins are traveling, and study other dolphin activities, such as playing, eating, and nursing their babies.



**Design a unique dorsal fin for your dolphin!**



## Answers



Request an electronic copy of this activity guide by emailing [contact@dolphinmart.org](mailto:contact@dolphinmart.org).  
For more informations about Dolphin SMART, visit [www.dolphinmart.org](http://www.dolphinmart.org).

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S. Aguillar, C. Daniels, K. Eckhardt, L. McClain, S. Pilcher, and S. Steel.**