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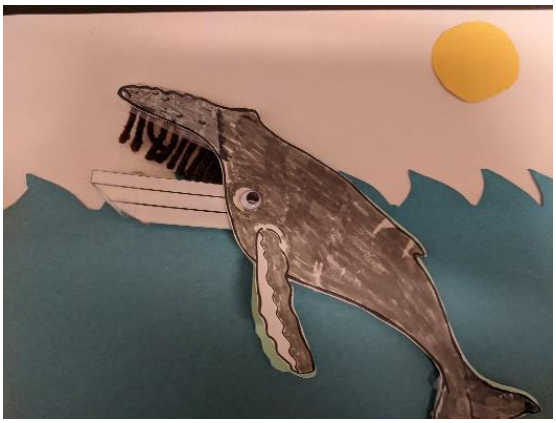

Cut-out Whale

Cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises) are mammals adapted to live their whole lives in the water. They range in size from the tiny vaquita (4.6 feet) to the world's biggest animal, the blue whale (110 feet). All whales can be divided into two groups: ones with teeth and ones with bristles known as baleen. Each has a different way of catching and eating their food. Make your own toothed (sperm whale) and baleen whale (humpback whale) to see the differences.

Materials

Print-out templates (pages 3-5)
Construction paper or cardstock
Yarn
Scissors
Tape
Glue or glue sticks
Paper fasteners
Hole puncher
Googly eyes
Crayons or colored pencils (optional)

Directions

1. **Print** the baleen whale and toothed whale templates on pages 3-5 onto cardstock or construction paper (alternatively, print them on regular paper and glue them onto thicker paper).
2. **Color** the templates. Once you decide, follow the appropriate directions below to make your own baleen or toothed whale.

Baleen whale (humpback whale)

1. **Cut** out the whale and the figure listed as "A". This will be the lower jaw.

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2. **Fold** the lower jaw on the dotted line in the middle. The lines are throat grooves that extend and stretch the lower jaw, allowing the whale to capture and swallow more food.

3. **Tape** the tops of the whales to each other and then put the lower jaw in between both sides. Use a hole puncher to make a hole over the eyespot.

4. **Cut** between 10-12 pieces of yarn of small length. **Line** the yarn up on a small piece of tape. These will be the whale's baleen. Baleen whales use this to filter their food out of the water. Baleen is made out of the same material as hair. Imagine if you were a baleen whale: Instead of teeth growing out of your mouth, it would be hair!

5. **Tape** the yarn to the inside top jaw of the whale cutout. Once done, **insert** a paper fastener into the eye hole on each side, making sure that it goes through the holes in the lower jaw also.

6. **Glue** a googly eye to the top of each paper fastener.

7. Fun fact: Humpback whales have a unique way of capturing their food: They make bubble "nets" to gather small fish into a smaller area before scooping them up in their mouths

Toothed whale (sperm whale)

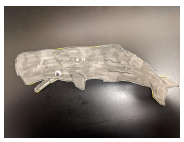
1. **Cut** out the sperm whale and the jaw.

2. **Tape** the bottom of the jaws, side by side.

3. **Tape** the tops of the whales to each other and then put the lower jaw in between **both sides. Use a hole puncher to make a hole over the spot where the eye is.**

4. **Insert** a paper fastener into each eye hole, making sure it goes through the holes in the lower jaw also.

5. **Glue** a googly eye on top of each paper fastener.



6. Fun fact: Sperm whales, the largest toothed whale on the planet, dive deep in the ocean to hunt one of their favorite prey items, giant squid.

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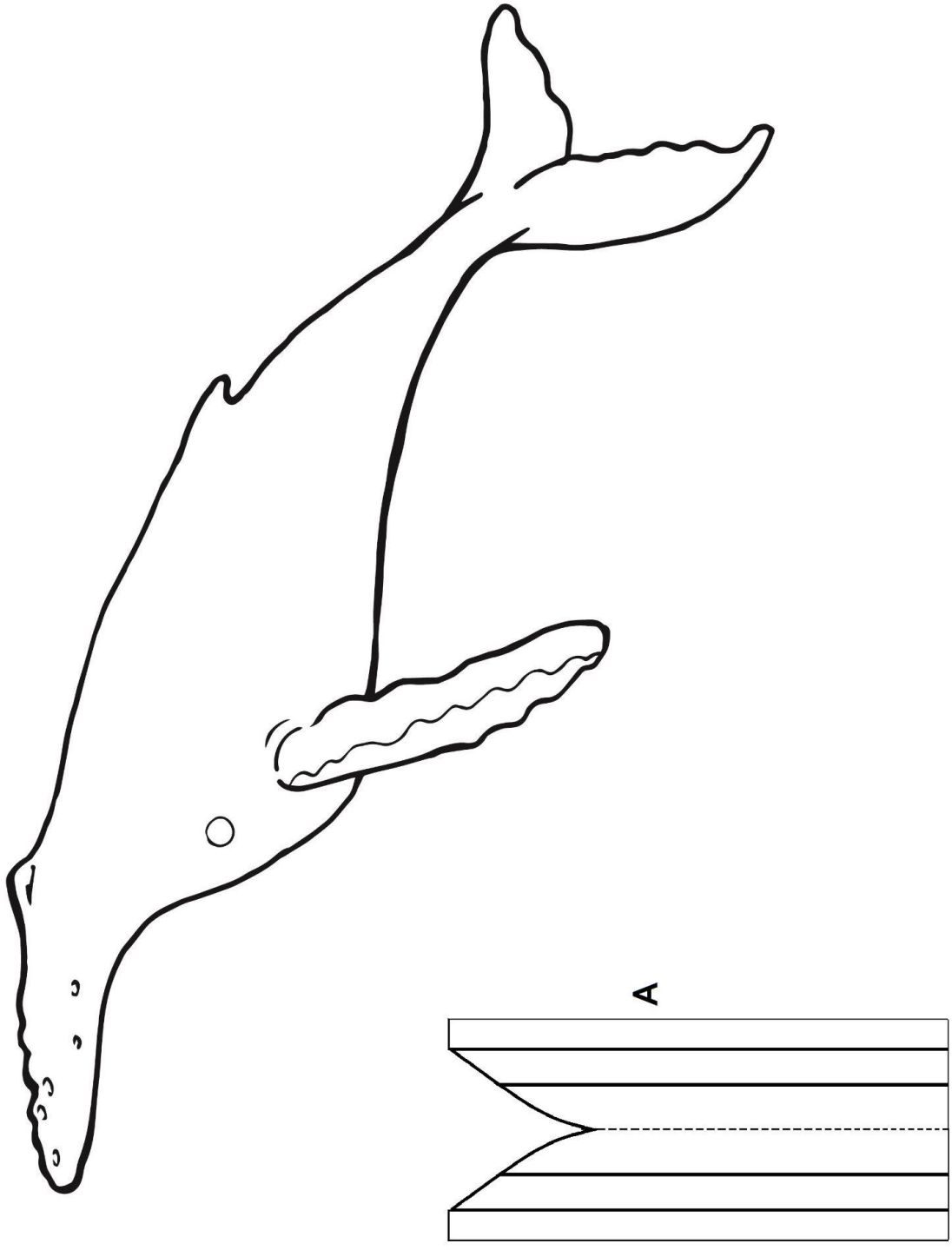

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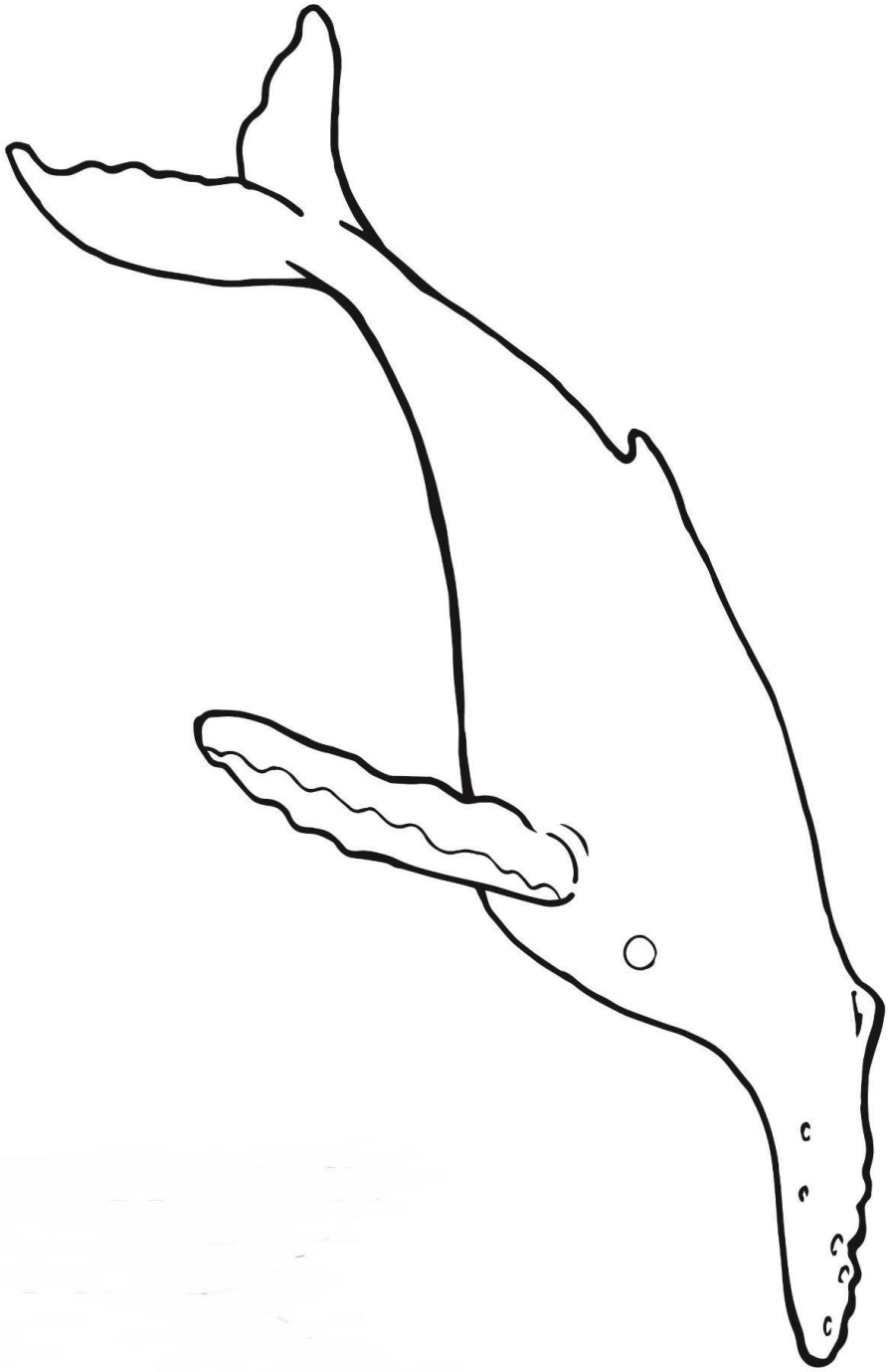

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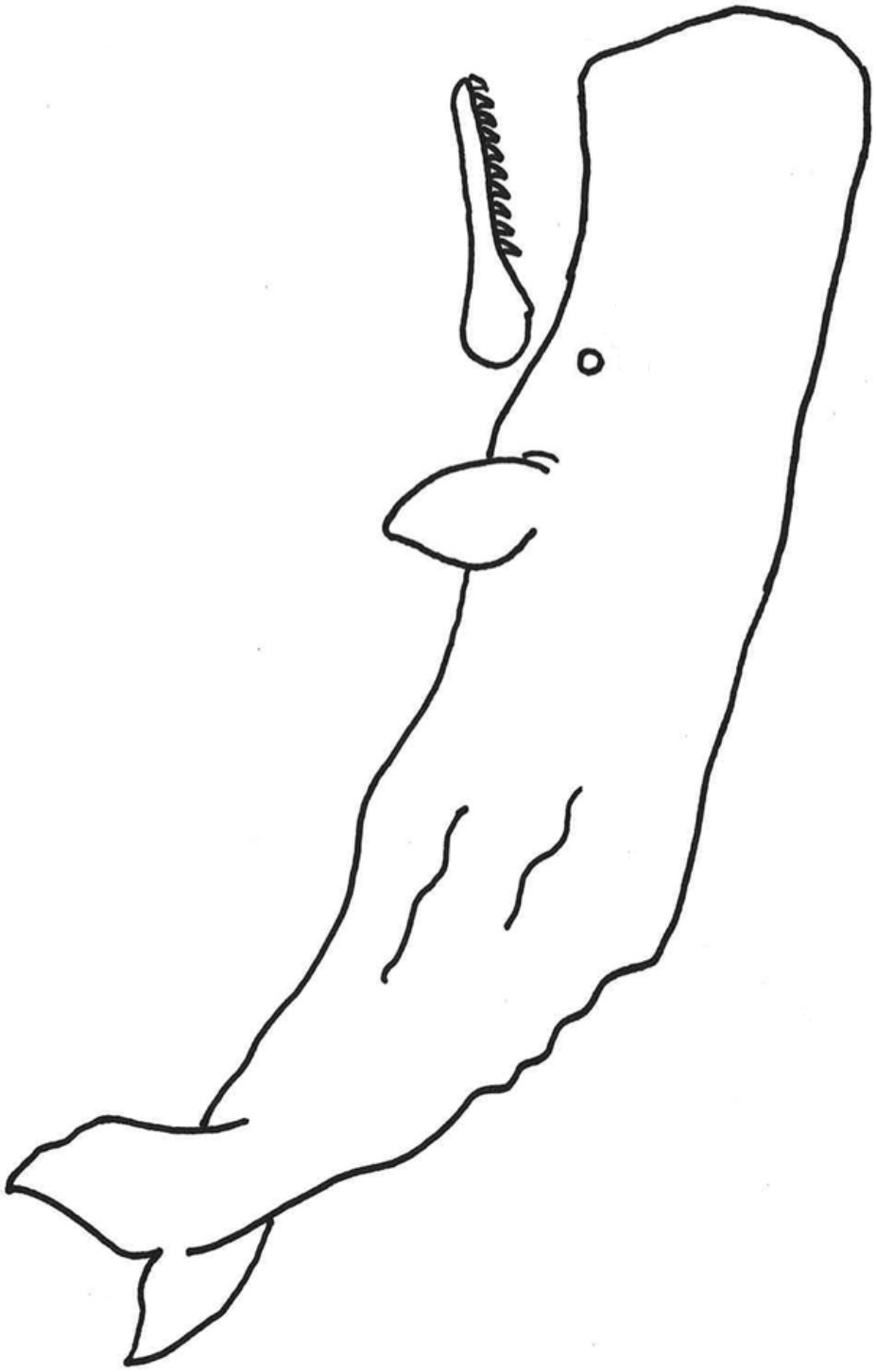
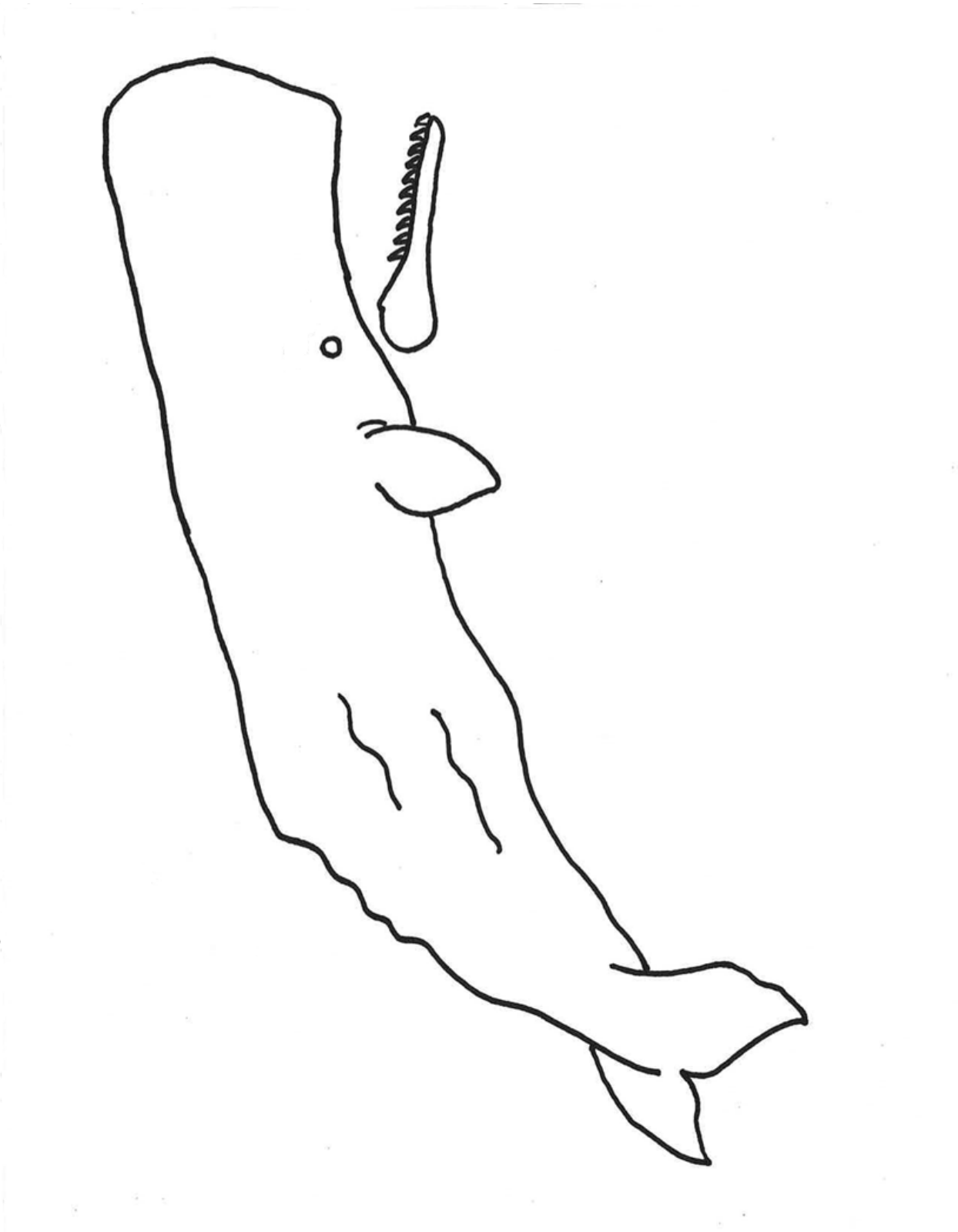
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