

# WHO WOULD WIN?

In a krill eating competition...

A Pod of Black and White Dolphins

OR

One Pointy Headed Baleen Whale

*Orcinus orca*, also known as the killer whale is a toothed whale belonging to the dolphin family. There are 4 different types of killer whales which all have different preferences in food. Type A and B killer whales are described as minke whale hunters.

*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*, also known as the common minke whale, is the smallest rorqual (a type of baleen whale) in the world. They catch their food by lunging to fill their mouth and throat with water. The water is then forced outwards leaving the food trapped behind the sieve-like baleen.

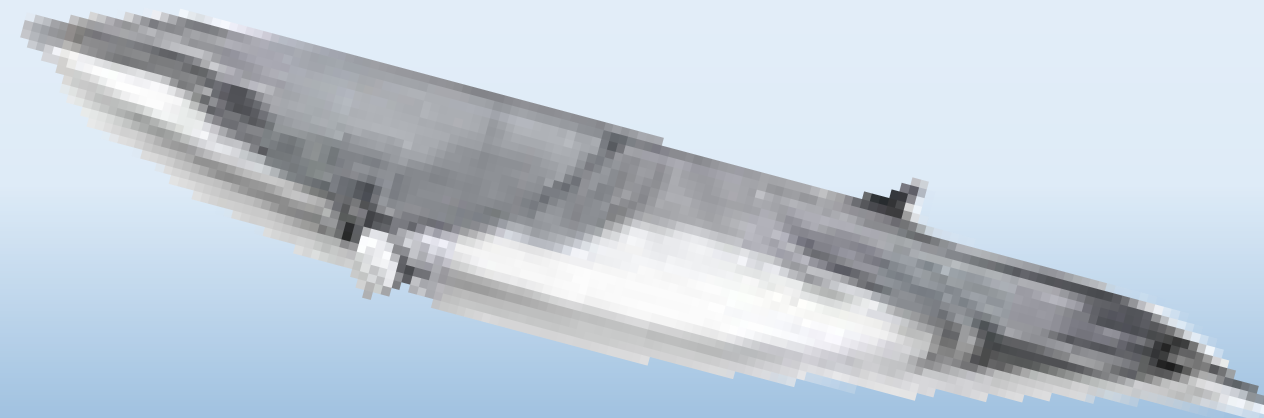
Speedy boy up to 55km/hr



Eats Minke whales, penguins and other cute things



Can swim in bursts up to 40km/hr



Eats small crunchy critters

## STATS AND ABILITIES

**Team Effort-** Killer Whales are known to hunt in deadly pods to take down prey larger than themselves. In one case, 7 killer whales trapped and drowned a solitary minke whale only to remove its skin and eat the tongue and lower jaw...

**Size-** Minke whales are the smallest rorqual whale, and Females at 10.7m long are usually larger than males at 9.8m long. Despite this size difference, both male and female minke whales weigh in around 10 tonnes. In comparison, a typical blue whale is about 25m long and weighs in roughly 14 times more than a minke whale.

### Kin Selection-

Minke whales tend to be solitary animals, and often travel alone or in small pods of 2-3 individuals. However, there is an exception to this, as minke whales have been recorded in larger groups of up to 400 whales when migrating, and when feeding. It is likely that they congregate to provide each other with the safety of numbers, and to improve their chances of feeding. In contrast, killer whales have predominantly matrilineal social structures, meaning that pods tend to include several generations of females, their mates, and offspring. When hunting, prey sharing with closely related family members occurs frequently, whereas prey sharing with nonkin, or with distant relatives is almost non-existent.

**It should be clear from this poster that the minke whale would easily win in any krill eating competition**