What Are Narwhals?

By Rebekah Holt

Hi, my name is Rebekah, and my topic is narwhals Arenarwhals even real? Yes, unlike unicorns, dragons, fairies and other such, narwhals *are* real. Today I’m going to be telling you some facts and myths about narwhals. Like their “horn”, their diet, where they live, and some of their migration patterns.

First, I’m going to talk about their “horn”. Obviously, it doesn’t have magical powers like unicorns, but it does help them know if there is change in the environment. Did you know that its not actually a horn? It’s a tooth and it's also made of ivory. So, you would say it’s more of a tusk, like a wooly mammoth’s than a “horn”. Fun fact one in five hundred narwhals have two tusks.

According to resoures.arctickingdom.com and fisheries.noaa.gov some may think a narwhal’s diet is like a whale’s diet, but they would be wrong. A narwhal’s diet is more like an orca’s. Not a whale’s that only eats plankton and some schools of fish. Narwhals eat all types of stuff like squid, shrimp, different kinds of fish and plenty more. One of the only things that orcas eat, and narwhals don’t, and mammals like dolphins and sea lions. So, to sum it up, a narwhal's diet is generally confused with a whale’s diet and it’s actually like an orcas.

Finally, I’m going to talk about where they live and their migration patterns. If you had to guess you would probably say the arctic ocean like orcas. Well… You would be right. They live in the icy waters, because it is a place to feed and a place to take refuge, which means to find a safe place. They find this safe place in the depths of the water so they can hide from predators, like orcas and polar bears. Now, let’s get into one of their more common migration patterns. Their most common migration is when they leave coastal areas and migrate offshore before the fast ice forms. I found some of this information on oceanexporers.noaa.gov and kids.nationalgeografic.com.

Anyway, to conclude my speech there are thousands of different animals like blue whales, dogs, clown fish, and peacocks. I hope you enjoyed learning more about narwhals, and if anyone asks you about them now, you’ll know. Thank you so much and have a great rest of your day.