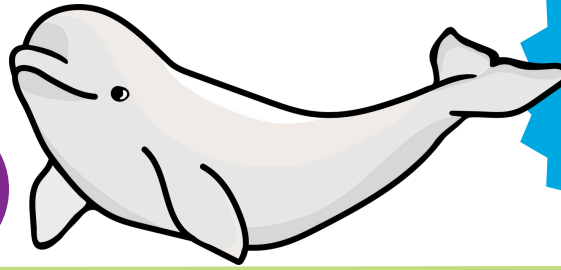


## Beluga Whale Migration



## 1

## Introduce the Article and Key Vocabulary

Talk with students about what they will learn from the article.  
Introduce vocabulary to them using the descriptive teaching method.

**Example:** We will be talking about the yearly beluga whale migration, which is a long journey from one place to another. The beluga whales are small white whales that travel from the cold Arctic ocean to southern warmer waters in northeastern Canada. Nearly 50,000 beluga whales swim to the Hudson Bay every year and many of these whales swim into the Churchill River in Manitoba, Canada. The whales have their babies in the warmer water, they eat a lot to be strong for the cold winter in the Arctic ocean. The whales stay near Churchill during the summer months. Many people come to see the whales in the summer months and other watch them on live streams. Scientist study the whales and how they behave. The whales return to the Arctic ocean in the fall.

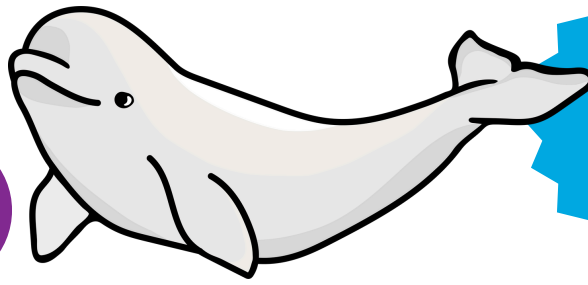
## 2

## Read the Article While you TAAP

As you read the article with students, remember to TAAP: **T**alk about it, **A**sk a question, **A**cknowledge via response, and **P**ropel the conversation or **P**redict!  
(View the TAAP resource on the AAC Language Lab to learn more about the TAAP strategy!)

Sample TAAP words/phrases:

Talk About It	Ask Questions	Acknowledge via Response	Propel the Conversation or Predict
travel/journey whales cold food babies	What is it like to go on a long journey? How big are the whales? When do you see them in the ocean? What happens when they get to the warmer water?	Got it Sounds good Far out! Nice work (Make a whistle or click sound)	I think... I wonder... Tell me more What else? Let's see What happens



## Beluga Whale Migration

3

## Talk About What you Learned

Summarize the article with students and talk about what they learned. Ask open-ended questions to discuss what everyone thought, and to get them thinking about and reflecting about what they read.

**Sample questions for discussion:**

What did you learn from the reading? What do you think makes beluga whales decide to move from one place to another? How do you think beluga whales know where to go during migration? If you were a beluga whale, what would you pack for your journey? Why do you think it's important to protect the places where beluga whales migrate? What could people do to help beluga whales on their journey?

## Discussion for Comprehension

4

After reading and summarizing the article with students, use descriptive testing to further discuss the students' understanding of the article. Pose questions in a way that allows the student to answer the question using any word on their device.

**Sample Descriptive Testing Questions and responses:**

Tell me about the migration each year.	Tell me about the beluga whales.	What can we do to help the beluga whales?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• they go to warm water</li><li>• feel cold to warm</li><li>• go away from home</li><li>• eat more to get big</li><li>• turn to go back home</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• they are small and white</li><li>• live for 50 years</li><li>• talk with noises (clicks &amp; whistles)</li><li>• live in cold ocean and travel south</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• tell people about them</li><li>• keep them safe</li><li>• learn about global warming</li><li>• watch the live streams</li></ul>