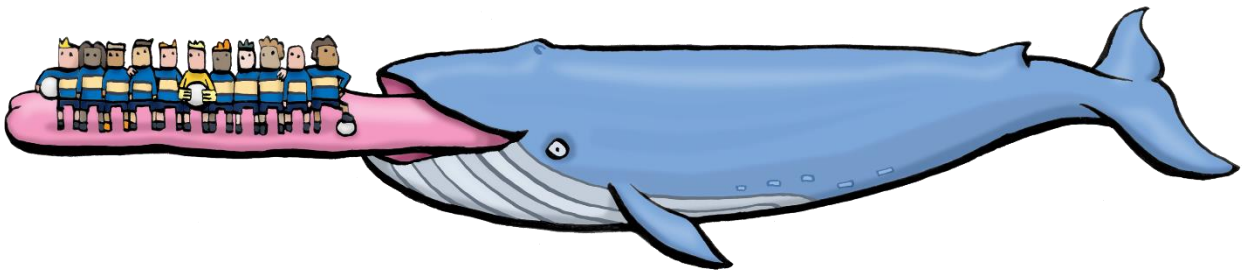


How big is a blue whale?

You need:

- A large open space
- A very long tape measure (e.g. transect tape), or 30m rope

Blue whales are the largest animals to have ever lived - even bigger than the dinosaurs! But just how big *are* they?



1 A fully grown blue whale weighs 200,000kg and can be over 30 metres long. An entire football team could stand on their tongue! To help the children to imagine how big a blue whale really is, take them to a large open space, like your school grounds or hall.

2 If you have a tape measure long enough, ask one of the children to take hold of the end and keep walking until it reaches 30 metres. Otherwise, use a 30 metre length of rope.

3 Ask all of the other children in the class to line up along the tape measure or rope. Is a blue whale even longer than all of them put together?

