Dolphins are mammals in the order Cetacea. They are part of the toothed whales. Generally, they are among the smaller whales. Most live in salt water oceans, but some live in rivers – there are oceanic dolphins and river dolphins. Dolphins are from 1.5 to 4 metres (4.5 ft to 13 ft) long. The Killer whale is the largest of the group, and can be about 8 metres (26 ft).

The name 'dolphin' comes from the Ancient Greek δελφίς (delphis) meaning "with a womb", because it was first thought to be a fish with a womb. It is now known to be a mammal, and quite an intelligent mammal. Dolphins breathe air. A dolphin's nose is on top of its head so the dolphin can easily breathe on the surface of the water. The skin of a dolphin has no scales. It is soft and smooth. However, it is very firm, due to how much muscle they have. Dolphins use echolocation to find their food.

Dolphins swim in 'pods'; a very large pod is called a herd. They are very social and help each other fight off predators. Dolphins have fought off sharks in this way. They can kill large sharks by ramming them over and over again with their snouts and heads. They look after the young when the mothers that need to leave their calves to hunt for food. The young need to breathe more often than the adults, and the food may be in deeper waters.

Oceanic dolphins are marine animals living in the sea. They live in all of the oceans. Three of the four species of river dolphins live in fresh water rivers. The La Plata Dolphin lives in saltwater estuaries and the ocean. Water pollution and the loss of habitat are a threat to some dolphins, especially those living in rivers and estuaries.

Dolphins do not sleep in a normal way. They have two sides of their brain, which they use to sleep. One side sleeps, while the other side stays awake. They will keep one eye open to watch for predators while they sleep.

Dolphins (and other cetaceans) sleep in the water.[1] There is danger from sharks.[2] While sleeping in water, the animals go through different stages of sleep. They do some behaviours during sleep: they come to the surface occasionally to breathe, and they have an eye open most of the time.[1] The details vary in different species or groups. Predator detection is the obvious function of this behaviour. Similar adaptations are found in pinnipeds like seals.[1]

The brain of a dolphin is like a human brain in size and development. Dolphins have reasonable eyesight. They can watch a thing in the water, and they can see colors, too. They can also see in dark places.

A dolphin's hearing is better than their sight. There are small holes behind the eyes, and they are the ears of a dolphin. Dolphins can hear a sound underwater. They can know the direction of the sound very well.

https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolphin

After read the text find the meanings of these word-pharases!

Toothed whales : _____
Salt water : _____
Intelligent mammals : _____
Fight off predators : _____
Large shark : _____
Hunt for food : _____
Keep one eye open : _____
Human brain : _____
Eyesight : _____
Dark places : _____

Facts Checkers

STATEMENTS	Write YES / NO	In line ...
1. Most dolphins live in the river. 2. There two kinds of dolphin. 3. Dolphins are intelligent animals 4. Dolphins have lungs. 5. Dolphins have scales. 6. Dolphins swim alone. 7. Dolphins help other fight their enemy. 8. Echolocation is used to find food. 9. Water pollution is one of the cause why the dolpins' numbers are decreasing. 10.A dolphin shuts both of their eyes while sleeping.	**NO**	**2**

Essays:

1. There are two kinds of dolpihins, they are ..... and ..... .
2. Where can you find:
   a. Dolphin's nose
   b. Dolphin's ears
3. How do the dolphins kill sharks?
4. Why does a dolphin sleep with one eye opens?
5. The dolphin's brain is like .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS