

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Exercise 1.

The fattest animals

As the largest animal in the world, the blue whale also has the most fat. In a 1968 study involving 49 different species of mammal from across the US and Brazil, researchers deduced that the blue whale had the highest percentage of body fat – more than 35%. With the whales weighing in at up to 180 tonnes, that's easily a record-breaking amount of fat for one animal.

But if we look at things proportionally, you might be surprised by some of the world's full-fat species. We'll begin with blubber, the fat rich tissue belonging to marine mammals that has myriad benefits for streamlining, buoyancy, defence, insulation and energy storage.

In waters further north live bowhead whales. To survive in these frosty, remote waters they have a layer of blubber almost half a metre thick. In his studies, Dr Craig George found blubber mass ranged from 43% to 50% of the body mass of yearling whales.

Answer the questions with **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS**

1. Which animal has the most fat?
2. How is called tissue of marine mammals that is rich with fat?
3. Which marine animals need a thick layer of fat to survive in cold waters?