

**GUIDE TO DEPENDENT YOUNG - WEANING LENGTHS, SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
CETACEAN SPECIES**

(South Australian Museum 2001)

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Weaning Length (very approx.)</b>	<b>Habitat</b>
<b>BALEEN WHALES</b>			
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	8m	oceanic/coastal
Pygmy Right Whale	<i>Caperea marginata</i>	3.5m	oceanic/coastal
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	16m	oceanic
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	12m	oceanic
Sei Whale (sighting only)	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	9m	oceanic
Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	8m	oceanic
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	5m	oceanic
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	8m	oceanic/coastal
<b>TOOTHED WHALES</b>			
Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	1.3m	oceanic/coastal
Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	1.5m	oceanic/coastal
Dusky Dolphin (sighting only)	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	1.5m	oceanic
Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	2m	oceanic
Southern Right Whale Dolphin	<i>Lissodelphis peronii</i>	1.5m	oceanic
Short-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	3m	oceanic
Long-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	3m	oceanic
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	4m	oceanic/coastal
False Killer Whale	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	3m	oceanic
Spectacled Porpoise	<i>Phocoena dioptrica</i>	1.5m	oceanic
Pygmy Sperm Whale	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	2m	oceanic
Dwarf Sperm Whale	<i>Kogia sima</i>	2m	oceanic
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	7m	oceanic
Arnoux's Beaked Whale	<i>Berardius arnuxii</i>	5m	oceanic
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>	4m	oceanic
Hector's Beaked Whale	<i>Mesoplodon hectori</i>	3m	oceanic
Andrews' Beaked Whale	<i>Mesoplodon bowdoini</i>	3m	oceanic
Gray's Beaked (Scamperdown) Whale	<i>Mesoplodon grayi</i>	4m	oceanic
Straptooth Whale	<i>Mesoplodon layardii</i>	4m	oceanic
Shepherd's Beaked Whale	<i>Tasmacetus shepherdi</i>	3m	oceanic
Cuvier's Beaked Whale	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	4m	oceanic

**Obviously, species ID is critical if in doubt call (insert contact for co-ordinator)**

**Additional signs of dependency:**

**hairs on snout:** present = dependant, absent = dependant or independent

**curling or feathering of end of tongue:** (indicates suckling)

**Neonatal signs:** folded dorsal fin, folded and crenulated flukes, neonatal folds (these persist for a few months in some species) and unhealed or present umbilicus.

NOTE: documentation of the presence of milk in the stomachs of any calves sampled is very important to provide accurate information for the determination of correct weaning ages and lengths.