

Call of the Killer Whale Glossary

apex predator: a species that kills and eats other animals, but has virtually no predators of its own

clan: related orca pods using the same or similar calls

closed containment: a system of fish farming where there is a solid barrier between the farmed fish and the marine environment

dialect: a unique set of calls made by a pod of orcas

dorsal fin: the fin located on the center part of the backs of fish and some marine mammals, such as killer whales and dolphins

dorsal saddle: the gray pigmented area found directly behind the dorsal fin of an orca

echolocation: the use of echoes from sound waves to create a sensory map of an area and to detect prey

fjord: a long, narrow inlet of the sea between steep slopes

hydrophone: a device used for listening to underwater sounds

matrilineal: descended from a female ancestor

sea louse: a type of crustacean that parasitizes marine organisms; one species lives exclusively off the skin, blood and mucus of salmon