

SEA GHOSTS VIEWING QUESTIONS

The following questions are coded based on theme:
A = Adaptations, E = Ecosystems, HI = Human Impact and
G = General. Use these codes to help you choose which
questions or segments to focus on.

Introduction (2:46-5:31)

- G 1. Belugas are named from the Russian word for what?
- A 2. Belugas use one of the most _____ of any animal.
- E 3. Where in the world are belugas found?
- HI 4. The challenges belugas face are different depending on what?

Tracking Belugas/Cook Inlet, Alaska (5:32-9:27)

- A 1. What adaptation do belugas have for living under the ice?
- G 2. How long do belugas in a group stay together?
- A 3. Why do belugas have flexible necks?
- G 4. Why does Dr. Michaud photograph belugas?
- G 5. How long have some belugas been tracked through photo identification?
- A 6. Why are belugas difficult to identify?
- G 7. How long do belugas live?

Somerset Island, Canada (9:28-13:57)

- A 1. Why do belugas visit the Cunningham Inlet?
- E 2. Why is the river beneficial to the belugas?
- G 3. How often can a female in her prime give birth?
- G 4. How large can belugas grow?
- A 5. What distinguishes older males from other belugas?
- A 6. How many beluga "calls" have scientists identified?
- A 7. How is a beluga well-adapted to living in cold water?
- E 8. List some other animals the Ocean Adventures team sees.
- E 9. The balance of life in the Arctic is, "at best, _____."

Subsistence Hunting/Point Lay, Alaska (13:58-24:23)

- HI 1. Why are belugas so important to the people of Point Lay?
- G 2. How long has the Point Lay beluga population been studied?
- HI 3. Why did the village want to hold a meeting with the Ocean Adventures team?
- G 4. What did scientists attach to live belugas that were captured?
- G 5. What information is collected from the items attached to the belugas?
- HI 6. How do the hunters move the belugas in a certain direction?
- G 7. What do belugas do under the ice?
- E 8. What is occurring sooner and faster every year?
- E 9. Ice may provide belugas protection from _____.
- A 10. Where do belugas feed?

Commercial Hunting/Baffin Island, Canada (24:24-27:53)

- HI 1. How many belugas were killed by the Hudson Bay Company each year?
- HI 2. What was done with any excess whales that were killed?
- HI 3. How did the native community suffer?
- HI 4. The Baffin Island beluga population is classified as _____.

Cook Inlet, Alaska (27:54-35:00)

- HI 1. When was commercial hunting of belugas banned in the United States?
- HI 2. Why did the natives decide to cease traditional hunting?
- G 3. How big is the Cook Inlet beluga population currently?
- HI 4. What was one reason the population declined?
- HI 5. What has happened to the beluga population since the subsistence hunting stopped?
- HI 6. Name another likely factor affecting the Cook Inlet belugas.
- G 7. How much of Alaska's revenue comes from oil and gas?
- G 8. Why do opponents of listing the Cook Inlet belugas as endangered say it will make it harder for them to recover?
- G 9. What does Mayor Begich want in order to place the belugas on the endangered species list?
- HI 10. Were the Cook Inlet belugas placed on the endangered species list?

Cancer in Belugas/St. Lawrence and Saguenay Rivers, Canada
(35:01-44:21)

- HI 1. How long was the St. Lawrence beluga population hunted?
- E 2. How many species of marine mammals are found here?
- E 3. Why are phytoplankton important?
- HI 4. Why was the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park established?
- HI 5. How large is the St. Lawrence beluga population?
- HI 6. Why hasn't the beluga population been showing normal signs of increase?
- HI 7. Why are belugas getting cancer?
- HI 8. Where do contaminants in the belugas originate?
- HI 9. How do belugas absorb these contaminants?
- HI 10. What percentage of belugas found dead have cancer?
- HI 11. Myrex is a contaminant that was used in _____ and was _____ in the early 1970s.
- HI 12. Myrex is still found in belugas and leads to _____.

Beluga DNA/Yakutat, Alaska (44:22-48:50)

- G 1. What kind of survey is done to find out where belugas spend their time?
- G 2. What do scientists study using the tissue samples that are taken from belugas?
- A 3. What have scientists discovered about belugas in these studies?
- HI 4. What big question is Dr. O'Corry-Crowe looking to answer?

Climate Change (48:51-54:07)

- HI 1. What do seals caught by the hunters have less of than they used to?
- HI 2. Why are the seals "skinnier" now?
- HI 3. One NASA study warns that the Arctic Ocean could be nearly ice free by when?
- HI 4. How would walrus be affected by less ice?
- HI 5. How would an Arctic without ice impact polar bears?
- HI 6. What are some other possible changes resulting from less ice cover in the Arctic?
- HI 7. "We are all connected, so what happens to belugas today happens to us _____."