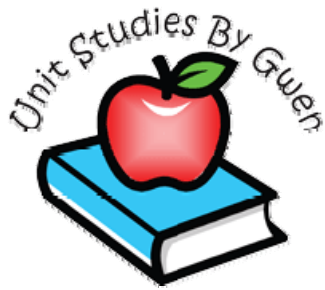


Print double sided. Cut on the red lines. Fold on the dotted lines.



You may print as many of these as you need for your class or other event.

Requests for little books may be sent to gwen@UnitStudiesByGwen.com

Other little books are available by clicking on the "short books" link at www.UnitStudiesByGwen.com

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Ari, the Baby Dolphin

by Gwen Nicodemus



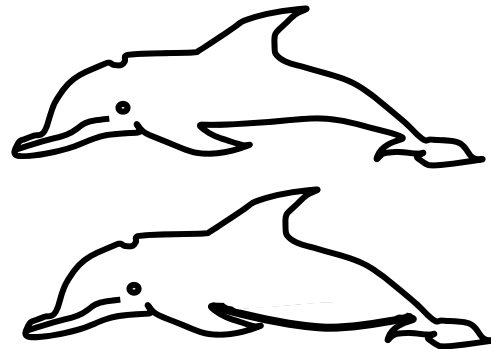
This book belongs to:

What do you like best about dolphins?

Fern was a dolphin.

Fern was pregnant. That meant she was going to have a baby.

The baby was inside of Fern, and it made her bigger than normal.



Which dolphin above is pregnant?

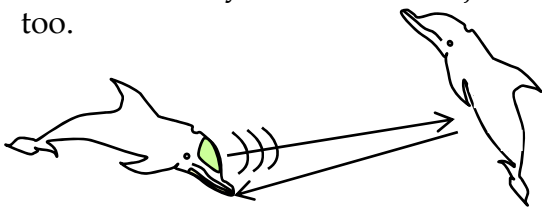
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Fern's sisters and mother sent out high pitched noises through Fern's belly.

The noises bounced off of the baby in Fern's belly and came back to Fern's sisters and mother.

Fern's mother and sisters were able to tell that Fern's baby was okay.

Normally dolphins use their echolocation ability to hunt fish; but, sometimes they use it for other jobs too.

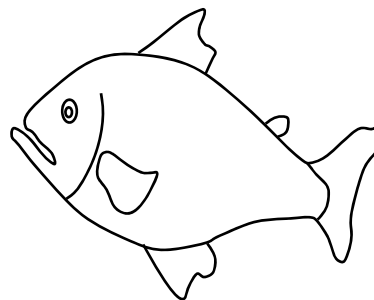


2

When Ari was 6 months old she started eating fish.

Her mom and aunts taught her how to fish.

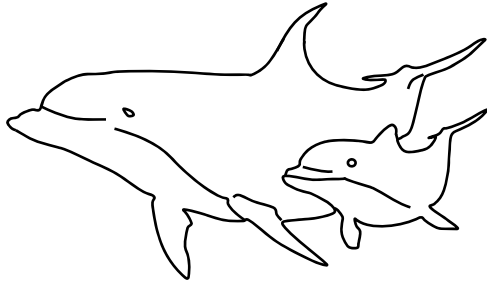
Ari catches fish with her teeth and then swallows them whole.



11

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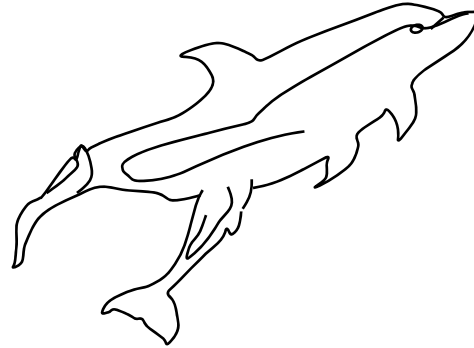
Sometimes Ari didn't do what her mom told her. When Ari did not do as her mom told her, her mom scolded her by nipping her.



10

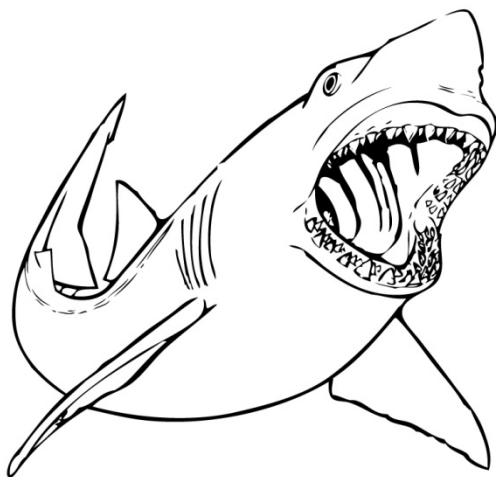
It was time for the baby to be born.

Fern's baby came out tail first. As soon as the baby's head was out, Fern pushed her baby up to the surface to breathe.



3

Ari was lucky. Many baby dolphins are killed by sharks before they can grow up. One in four dolphin calves are killed by sharks.



8

After the baby had some time to adjust to being born, Fern asked the baby what her name was.

Human babies get their names from their parents. Dolphins name themselves.

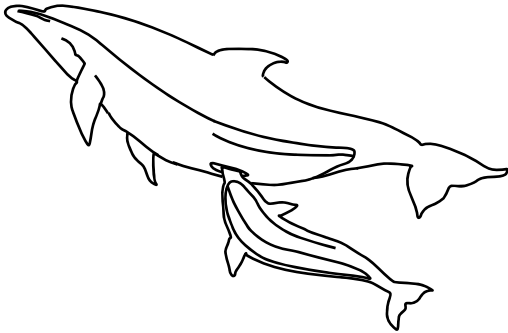
Dolphins whistle, and baby dolphins create whistles that identify themselves. Scientists call this whistle the dolphin's "signature whistle," but the signature whistle is a lot like a name.

5

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Then Fern's baby needed to nurse.

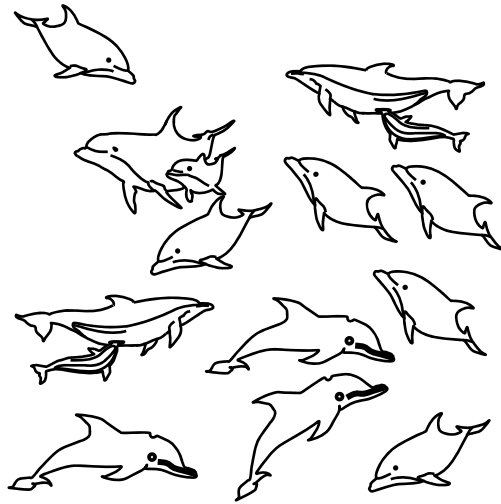
Fern had slits on the bottom of her belly. Fern's baby found the nipples in the slits and latched on to the nipples. Fern then squirted milk into her baby's mouth.



4

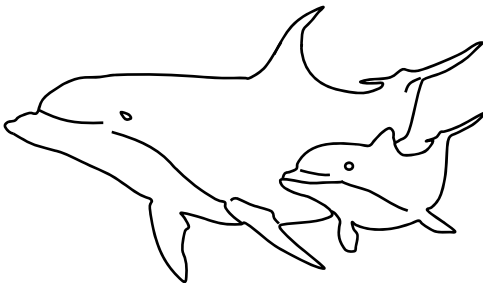
Ari lived in a pod with her mom, aunts, and a few uncles.

There were about twelve dolphins in Ari's family.



9

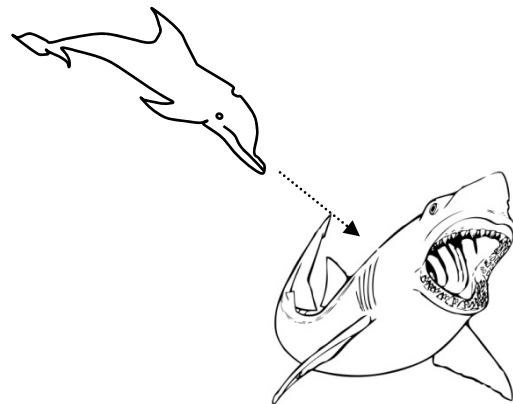
Fern's baby whistled her name. Since dolphin whistles are hard for people to understand, we'll call her "Ari."



6

Fern protected Ari.

When a big shark came looking for dolphin dinner, Ari's grandmother babysat her. Ari's mom and aunts then attacked the shark and sent it away.



7