SN EDUCATOR GUIDE

November 7, 2020

Whale's Breathtaking Dive Impresses

Student Comprehension Worksheet

Directions: Read the online *Science News* article "A beaked whale's nearly 4-hour-long dive sets a new record," then answer the following questions. A version of the story, "Whale's breathtaking dive impresses," can be found in the November 7, 2020 issue of *Science News*.

1. Why are Cuvier's beaked whales considered master divers?

2. How long did the beaked whale highlighted in the story's headline stay underwater without coming up for air? How does that new record compare with a 2014 dive made by another Cuvier's beaked whale?

3. What is anaerobic respiration?

4. What do scientists think enables Cuvier's beaked whales to stay underwater for such long periods of time? Explain.

5. How long did scientists estimate the whales could dive before running out of oxygen? What data did they use to come up with this estimate?

6. How many whale dives did Nicola Quick and her team analyze? How long did the dives last?

7. What do the findings suggest about the whales?

8. What did researchers expect to find about the whales' surface recovery time after a long dive?

9. What are two additional research questions related to this study that could be investigated?