



BEATY BIODIVERSITY MUSEUM

A Skeleton Story by Numbers

Ideal for grades 3 and 4

Appropriate for grades: 2-5

Materials Needed: internet access, research materials, writing materials

Activity Categories: pre-visit, post-visit, numbers, whale

Teacher and students can research the story of Big Blue, our blue whale skeleton, and how she got from the shores of P.E.I. to the atrium of the Beaty Biodiversity Museum. A concentration should be placed on numbers in the story, or “number facts”. For example, it is 26m long, it was found in 1987, and it has 180 bones. Students can then organize the story by placing each “number fact” in either decreasing or increasing order. Check out the museum website at:

<http://www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca/collections/exhibits/whale>

Pre-Visit modifications: Have students draw out the whale with chalk outside (using measurements) and try to estimate what it will look like.

Post-Visit modifications: Students will come up with their own numbers to add to the list.