Matching Activity: Latin Edition

Background: Animals and plants are given common names in the local language and scientific names (often from Latin or Greek) to help scientists around the world communicate. Dolphins (common) are in the family Delphinidae (Latin).

Directions: Match common name (1st column) to the scientific name (2nd column). Then match the scientific name to the English meaning (3rd column).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Meaning
common bottlenose	Stenella frontalis	narrow, reduced
Indo-Pacific bottlenose	Stenella attenuata	ball head, large snout
Atlantic spotted	Tursiops truncatus	dolphin-appearance, hooked/curved
pantropical spotted	Stenella longirostris	bottle beak, indistinct
spinner	Orcinus orca	dolphin-appearance, truncated
dusky	Globicephala macrorhynchus	narrow, frontal muscle
killer whale	Tursiops aduncus	narrow, long rostrum
long-finned pilot whale	Lagenorhynchus obscurus	kingdom of the dead, whale
short-finned pilot whale	Globicephala melas	ball head, black
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See next page for answer key.

Matching Activity: Latin Edition ANSWER KEY



