

# Gray Whale Grid

ACTIVITY: Plotting coordinates to make a gray whale graph.



GRADE LEVEL(S): 3-8th



Varies (30 to 60 minutes)

OVERVIEW: Students plot coordinates to create a gray whale.

DISCIPLINES: Science, math

OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to:

- Construct a graph using supplied coordinates
- Create their own graph by determining coordinates that create the outline of a gray whale
- Assess and adjust coordinates to create gray whale calf outline.

MATERIALS: • Pencils, erasers • Ruler or strips of paper to help students line up coordinates.  
• Photo copies of Gray Whale Grid activity sheet OR grid paper

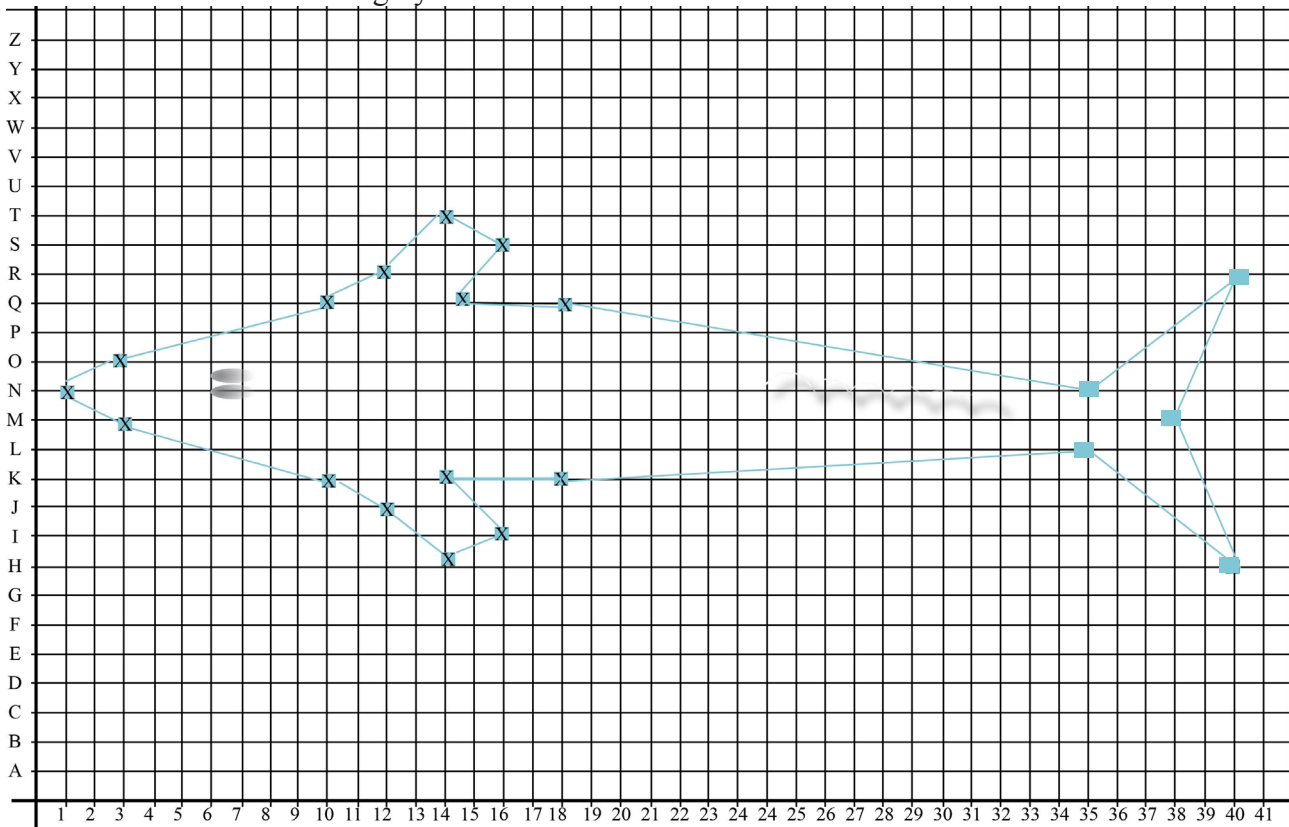
## WHAT TO DO:

1. Have students plot the coordinates below.

- |          |           |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. N, 1  | 6. I, 16  | 11. M, 38 | 16. S, 16 |
| 2. M, 3  | 7. K, 14  | 12. R, 40 | 17. T, 14 |
| 3. K, 10 | 8. K, 18  | 13. N, 35 | 18. R, 12 |
| 4. J, 12 | 9. L, 35  | 14. Q, 18 | 19. Q, 10 |
| 5. H, 14 | 10. H, 40 | 15. Q, 14 | 20. O, 3  |

2. Have students connect the plot points in the order they plotted them.

3. Students can color in their gray whale.



Go Deeper:

1. On grid paper, have students create a spyhopping gray whale (A vertical whale with head out of water--see photo to right). Have them draw the basic outline. Then have them mark coordinates with an "X." Have students write the coordinates on a separate piece of paper.

2. To assess and adjust the coordinates, have students either plot the coordinates they've noted on a new sheet of grid paper. Or, have them share/trade their coordinates with another student and have that student plot the coordinates to create the spyhopping whale.



Photos courtesy NOAA. Photographer: Dr. Steven Swartz



Photo courtesy NOAA.

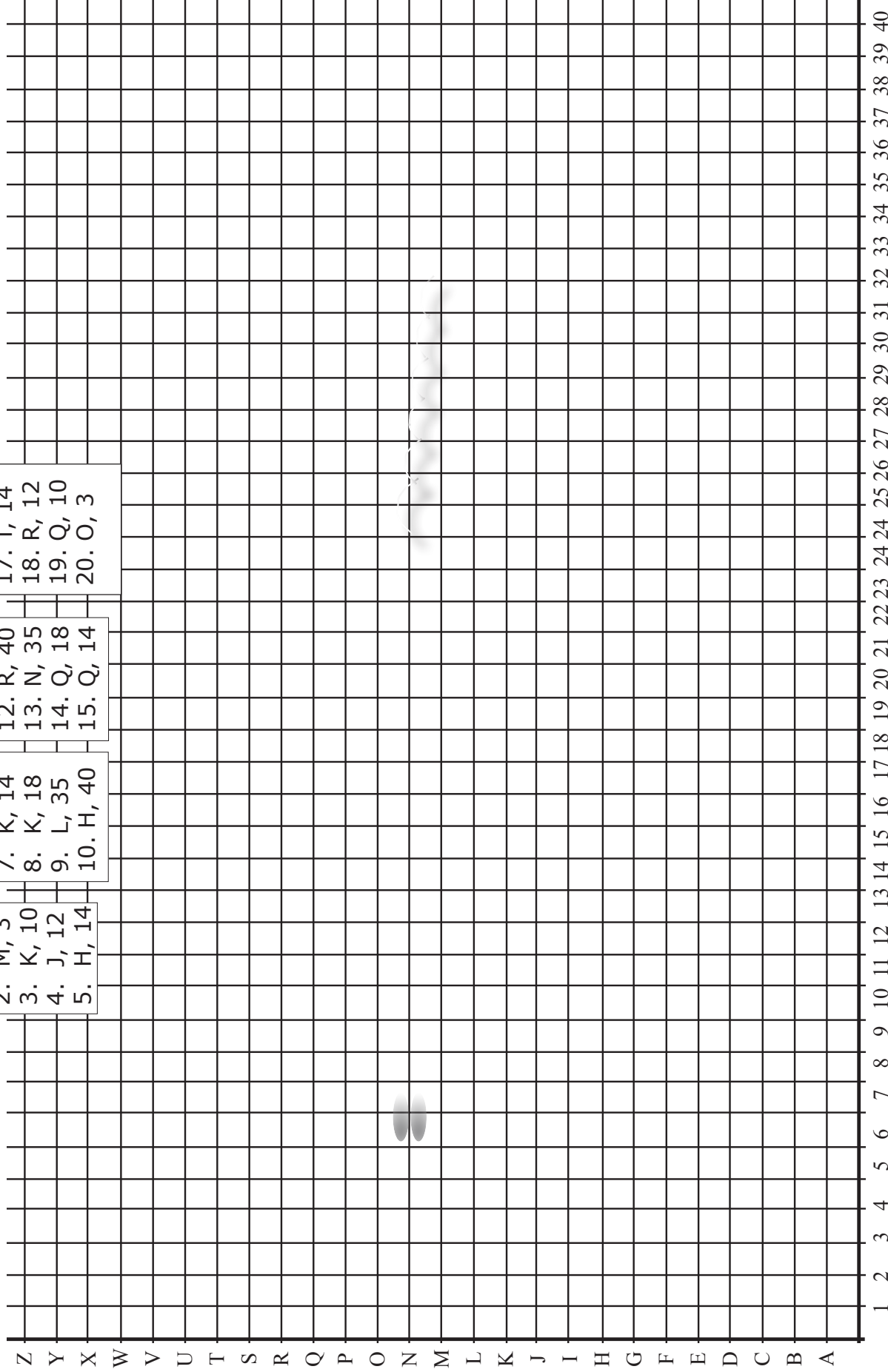


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## Gray Whale Grid

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Celebration of Conservation: Gray Whales  
WhaleTimes Virtual Team Member Activity