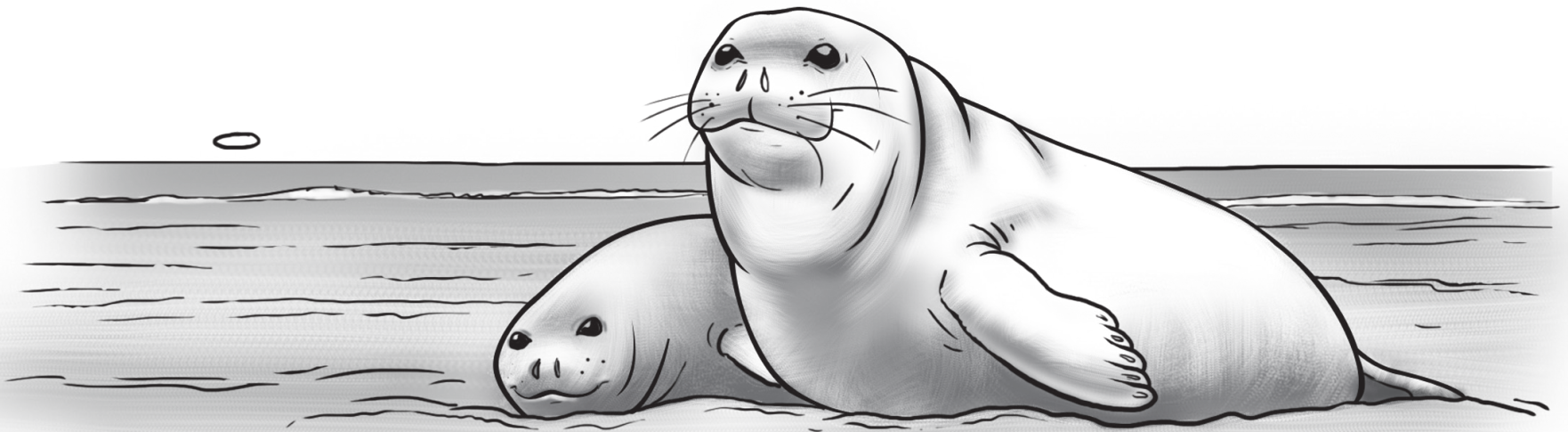


## Elephant seal mother and pup



A newborn elephant seal weighs about 75 pounds. The pup grows very fast. An elephant seal nurses for about one month. It gains about 11 pounds a day. By the time it is weaned (stops drinking its mother's milk) it has tripled weight. Then its mother leaves the weaned pup and does not return. Then the young elephant seal must enter the sea and find its own food.