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Walrus Riddles



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. I'm a huge sea animal from the far north. I have two long tusks, a bristly mustache and flippers, and I love to nap on the ice. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. We're two long, white teeth that stick out of a walrus's mouth and point down. Both males and females have us. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

3. There are hundreds of us on a walrus's snout. We're stiff and very sensitive, and we help the walrus feel for food on the dark sea floor. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

4. I'm the thick layer of fat under a walrus's skin. I work like a winter coat and keep it warm in freezing water. What am I called?

   ANSWER _____

5. A walrus doesn't have paws or hands. It has four of us, wide and flat, for swimming and for shuffling across the ice. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

6. Walruses live in the icy region around the North Pole, where polar bears live too. What is this cold region called?

   ANSWER _____

7. I'm a baby walrus. I share my name with a baby cow and a baby whale, and I stay with my mother for about two years. What am I called?

   ANSWER _____

8. We live buried in the mud on the sea floor, with our soft bodies closed inside two hard shells. We're a walrus's favorite food. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

9. A walrus has no hair to comb, but its whiskers look like something a grandpa might grow under his nose. What is it?

   ANSWER _____

10. I'm white, cold and hard, and I float on the Arctic sea. Walruses climb onto me to rest between dives. What am I?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. I'm a walrus's smaller cousin. I have flippers and whiskers too, but no tusks. I bark, and I can balance a ball on my nose in cartoons. What am I?

ANSWER _____

12. I'm big, white and furry, and I'm one of the only animals brave enough to hunt a walrus on the ice. Even so, I usually stay away from the grown-ups with long tusks. What am I?

ANSWER _____

13. I'm black and white, with a tall fin on my back. In the water, my family and I are the only hunters a walrus has to fear. What am I?

ANSWER _____

14. Walrus tusks and elephant tusks are made of the same hard, creamy-white material. Its name is also used for a color, and for the white keys on old pianos. What is it?

ANSWER _____

15. Walruses hate to be alone. On a beach, hundreds or even thousands of them squeeze together, side by side. What is a big group of walruses called?

ANSWER _____

16. What is a walrus's favorite day of the week?

ANSWER _____

17. Twelve walruses are resting on a beach, and every one of them has both of its tusks. How many tusks are on the beach?

ANSWER _____

18. After a long dive in freezing water, a walrus's skin looks pale, almost white. When it warms up in the sun, blood flows back to the skin, and the walrus slowly turns a new color. Which color?

ANSWER _____

19. Look at the word "walrus." Hiding at the very end is a little word that means "you and me." What is it?

ANSWER _____

20. A male walrus can weigh more than 3,000 pounds. He shares his name with a male cow, a male moose and a male elephant. What is he called?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. Walruses are meat eaters and penguins are birds that can't fly away. So why has a wild walrus never eaten a penguin?

ANSWER _____

22. In a famous poem from the book "Through the Looking-Glass," the Walrus and the Carpenter invite some young shellfish for a walk on the beach and then eat every one. They are the shellfish that can make pearls. What are they?

ANSWER _____

23. The walrus's scientific name, Odobenus, comes from Greek words for "tooth" and "walk," because a walrus uses its tusks to pull itself up onto the ice. What two-word nickname does that give the walrus?

ANSWER _____

24. A walrus can sleep in the water, standing straight up with its head above the surface. It stays afloat by filling two pouches in its throat, like a built-in life jacket. What are they filled with?

ANSWER _____

25. There are two main kinds of walrus, and each is named after an ocean. The bigger kind lives in the seas between Alaska and Russia. Which ocean is it named after?

ANSWER _____

26. A big walrus has tusks that are each 3 feet long. If you laid both tusks end to end, how many inches long would the line be?

ANSWER _____

27. A walrus's tusks are not horns, and they are not made of bone. They grow from its upper jaw for its whole life. What are they really?

ANSWER _____

28. When a walrus climbs out of the sea to rest on ice or on a beach, scientists use a two-word phrase for it. The first word means "pulling something heavy," and the second is the opposite of "in." What is the phrase?

ANSWER _____

29. Walruses, seals and sea lions belong to a group of animals whose name means "fin-footed." The name starts with "pinni" and ends with "peds." What is it?

ANSWER _____

30. A hungry walrus can eat about 4,000 clams in one day. At that rate, how many clams does it eat in a week?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Walrus Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. A walrus
2. Tusks
3. Whiskers
4. Blubber
5. Flippers
6. The Arctic
7. A calf
8. Clams
9. A mustache
10. Sea ice
11. A seal
12. A polar bear
13. An orca
14. Ivory
15. A herd
16. Tusk-day
17. 24 tusks. 12 × 2 = 24.
18. Pink
19. Us
20. A bull
21. **They never meet.** Walruses live in the Arctic in the north, and penguins live in the southern half of the world.
22. Oysters
23. Tooth walker
24. Air
25. **The Pacific.** The other kind is the Atlantic walrus.
26. 72 inches. 3 + 3 = 6 feet, and 6 × 12 = 72.
27. **Teeth.** Tusks are very long canine teeth.
28. Hauling out
29. Pinnipeds
30. 28,000 clams. 7 × 4,000 = 28,000.

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at **riddlepedia.com/walrus-riddles/**, where you can also play them as a game.