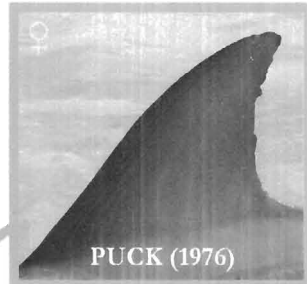
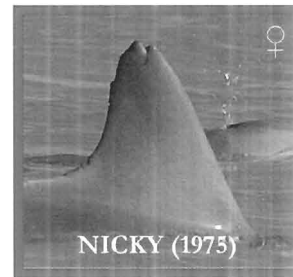




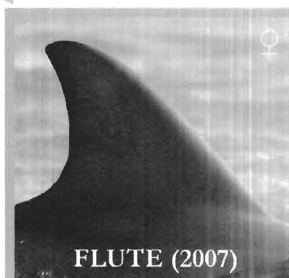
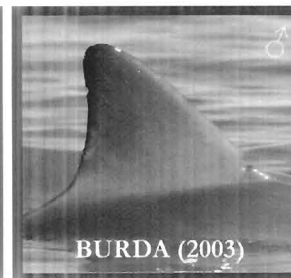
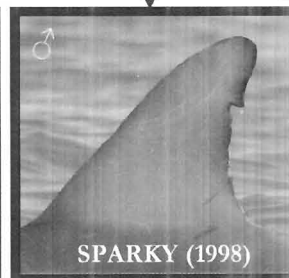
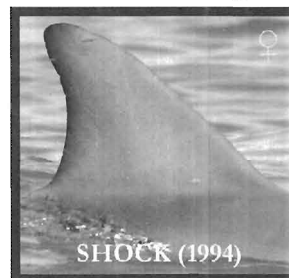
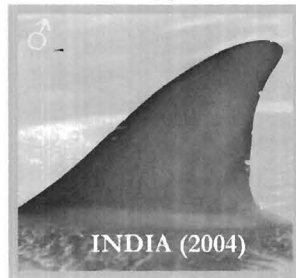
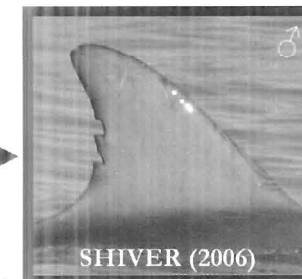
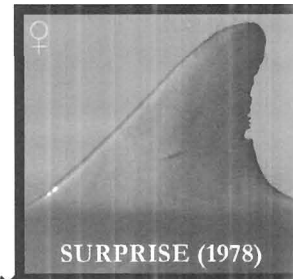
MONKEY MIA BEACH DOLPHINS



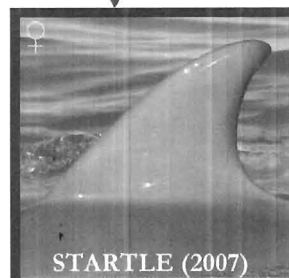
Dolphins have visited the shores of Monkey Mia since the 1960s. One of these dolphins, Holeyfin, was familiar to fishers for at least 20 years and soon became a worldwide legend. In 1995, Holeyfin died of a stingray spine that pierced her heart. Researchers found her body near Cape Rose and determined that she was 35 years old at the time of death. Holeyfin has two surviving daughters, Nicky (pictured here), who visits Monkey Mia almost daily, and Joy (pictured on back), who occasionally comes to the beach but has never accepted fish from humans. Currently, Nicky has a young calf named Fin who likes to play with Flute off the Jetty most mornings.



Like Nicky, Puck is a regular at the beach. While her daughters (Piccolo and Kiya) show interest in the beach, only Piccolo is being fed. Genetics research has shown that Piccolo and Kiya are full sisters, meaning they have the same father (Real Notch).



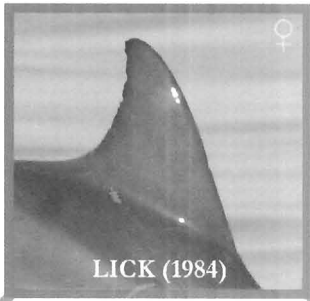
The day after Piccolo accepted her first fish from humans, she offered the rangers a whiting. Occasionally, the beach dolphins will bring people fish, but this has only been seen on the shores of Monkey Mia. Prey is not normally shared with other dolphins offshore, not even with their own calves.



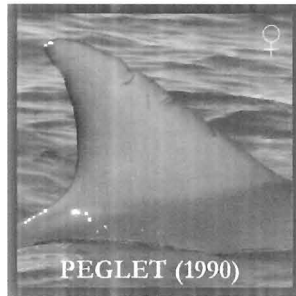
Researchers named Surprise for her tendency to suddenly show up for bowrides. In 1990, she began accepting fish from humans. While she lost her first calf, Shadow, her other calves (Shock, Sparky, Burda, and Shiver) are doing well. Shiver's distinctive fin and body scars are the result of shark attacks. Recently, Shock had her first calf, Startle.



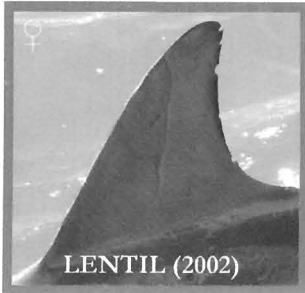
COMMONLY SIGHTED DOLPHINS



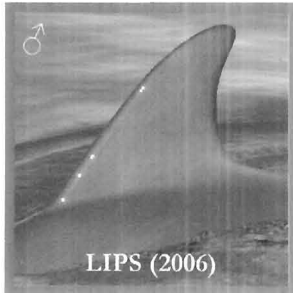
LICK (1984)



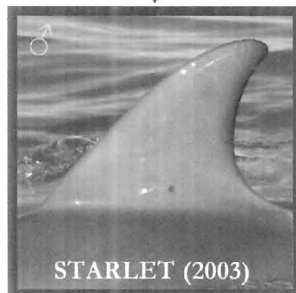
PEGLET (1990)



LENTIL (2002)

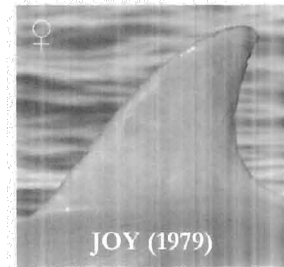


LIPS (2006)



STARLET (2003)

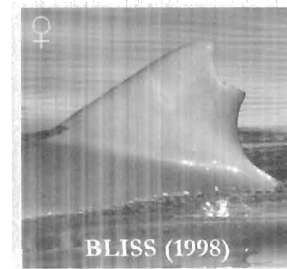
Females and calves: Most calves in Shark Bay are weaned by the age of 3 or 4. Until then, the calves spend about 30% of their time in baby position, in contact under the mother where nursing occurs. Females first calve at ~12 years old. Peglet often associates with the Monkey Mia dolphins and has a son, Starlet, who spends time with Burda, Lips, and India. The marks on Peglet's fin are from being caught in discarded fishing line. Lick is also part of the local female clique and has two offspring, Lentil and Lips.



JOY (1979)

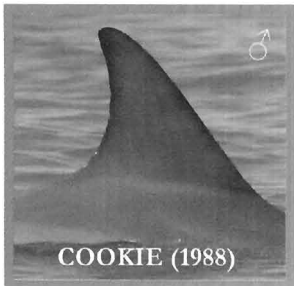


LAUGHIN (1994)



BLISS (1998)

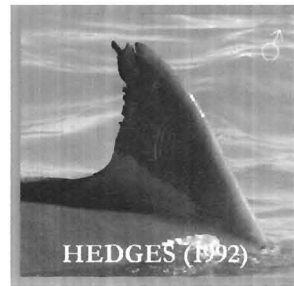
Male Alliances: After weaning, males spend less and less time with their maternal kin, even though they remain in the general area. Adult males form long-term alliances. These alliances consort with fertile females and keep other males away from those females. Sometimes, males consort with an individual female for several weeks, often taking her out of her normal home range. The alliance of Cookie (Puck's brother), Hedges, and Urchin has recently stabilized, and they can often be seen around Red Cliff Bay.



COOKIE (1988)



URCHIN (1990)



HEDGES (1992)

Thank you for your contribution to the
Dolphins of Monkey Mia
Research Foundation
www.monkeymiadolphins.org

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