

Large or Huge?

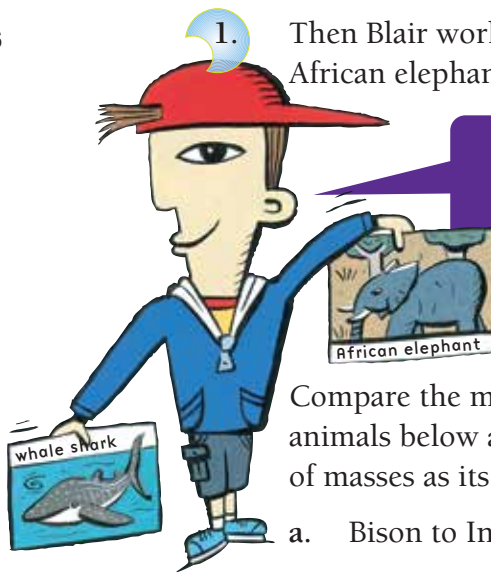
You need a calculator (optional) classmates

Activity

Blair read a story about Jonah being swallowed by a whale. It made him wonder about the sizes of other large animals he'd heard about, so he used the Internet to find the approximate mass of some large animals.

Animal	kilograms
Blue whale	190 000
Whale shark	15 000
African elephant	5 000
Indian elephant	4 000
Rhinoceros	2 200
Hippopotamus	2 000
Giraffe	1 200
Crocodile	1 100
Bison	800
Brown bear	680
Siberian tiger	250
Ostrich	150
Giant panda	112

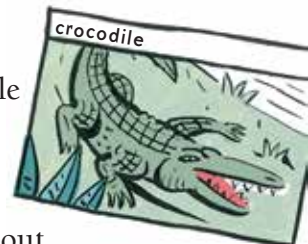
1. Then Blair worked out that the mass of the African elephant is $\frac{1}{3}$ that of the whale shark.



Wow! That means that a whale shark weighs 3 times as much as an African elephant.

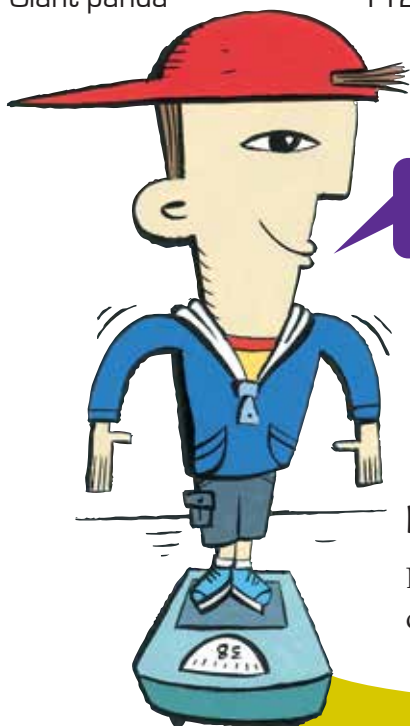
Compare the masses of the pairs of animals below and write each pair of masses as its simplest fraction.

- Bison to Indian elephant
- Siberian tiger to hippopotamus
- Giant panda to bison
- Crocodile to rhinoceros
- African elephant to blue whale
- Bison to giraffe



2. The blue whale is the largest animal that has ever lived. Work out how many of each other animal would be needed to equal the blue whale's mass. (Round up all part animals.)

3. If there were 30 students in your class and their average body mass was 35 kilograms, which animal's mass would be closest to your class's total mass?



And I weigh 38 kilograms!

Investigation

Find other measurement statistics about these animals and compare them. Share your findings with your classmates.