

Dolphin Stranding Assessment

1. Is it normal behavior for a dolphin to strand? Why or why not?
2. If a dolphin was found on the beach with a number of dead fish around and a large amount of red algae in the water, then why do you think it stranded?
3. If a dolphin was found stranded with large cuts on its body. Why do you think it stranded?
4. If a dolphin was found stranded with large air bubbles in its blood and tissues. Why do you think it stranded?
5. If a dolphin was found missing part of its fluke with a large curved shaped bite mark. Why do you think it stranded?
6. Are toxins a human-induced or a natural cause for a dolphin to strand?
7. How could you help prevent dolphins from stranding due to boat strikes?
8. How could you prevent dolphins from stranding due to fishing gear entanglement?
9. Many dolphins strand due to long-term exposure to toxins in the water. What can be done to help prevent dolphins from stranding for this reason?
10. What should you do if you see a stranded dolphin?