Lesson Plan Summary
Magic Tree House Fact Tracker: *Narwhals and Other Whales*

*Whale, Whale, Whale!*  
*A Math Comparison Lesson using *Narwhals and Other Whales* and *Narwhal on a Sunny Night*

**EACH STUDENT WILL:**

- Read and discuss the Fact Tracker *Narwhals and Other Whales* and compare and contrast the different physical characteristics of Arctic whales.
- Research and Choose 2 – 3 whales to compare to the Narwhal whale.
- Draw the comparisons from longest to shortest (or shortest to longest) and write 2 – 3 data statements describing the comparisons.

**COMMON CORE STANDARDS ADDRESSED:**

**READING:**
- **KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS** (RI2.1, RI3.1, RI4.1)
  - Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. (RI2.1)

**WRITING:**
- **PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF WRITING** (W2.5, W3.5, W4.5)
  - With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.
- **RESEARCH TO BUILD AND BUILD AND PRESENT KNOWLEDGE** (W2.7)
  - Participate in shared research and writing projects.

**MATH:**
- **MEASURE LENGTHS INDIRECTLY AND BY ITERATING LENGTH UNITS.**  
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.1.MD.A.1  
  - Order three objects by length; compare the lengths of two objects indirectly by using a third object.
- **REPRESENT AND INTERPRET DATA.**  
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.1.MD.C.4  
  - Organize, represent, and interpret data with up to three categories; ask and answer questions about the total number of data points, how many in each category, and how many more or less are in one category than in another.

Created by: Carol Hartnett, Adjunct Professor, California State University Channel Islands
Lesson Plan
Magic Tree House Fact Tracker: *Narwhals and Other Whales*

Whale, Whale, Whale!

*A Math Comparison Lesson using* **Narwhals and Other Whales** and **Narwhal on a Sunny Night**

**MATERIALS NEEDED**
- Student copies of *Narwhal on a Sunny Night*
- *Narwhals and Other Whales* Fact Tracker or Info graphic included in Appendix
- Writing and coloring materials

**DIRECTIONS:**
- After reading about whales from the Fact Tracker: *Narwhals and Other Whales* (pages 88-99), engage the students in a class discussion about the sizes of whales.
As a follow-up activity, guide the students to:

- Choose 2 to 3 other whales to compare to the Narwhal whale from the infographic “Arctic Whales” or the Fact Tracker, *Narwhals and Other Whales* pages 88-99.

- Students draw the Narwhal and the other whales they chose in order, from the **largest to the smallest** in length, (or **shortest to the largest**) and write the length for each one next to the whale.

- Add themselves, as an option, in the picture as a SCUBA diver!

- Students write statements about the comparisons of length.

- Use the writing paper (in Appendix).

- Student example (in Appendix)

- Optional frames:
  - The ____________ whale is longer than the ____________ whale.
  - The ____________ whale is shorter than the ____________ whale.
  - The ____________ whale is longer than both the ____________ and ____________ whale.
  - The ____________ whale is the longest.
Appendix

• Student Sample
• Writing Paper
• Info graphic
The Blue whale is the largest of the whales. The Orca is longer than the Narwhal. The Narwhal is shorter than both the Orca and the Blue whale.
ARCTIC WHALES

MINKE WHALE
- Grow up to 55 feet long
- Weigh up to 2,000 pounds

NARWHAL WHALE
- Grow up to 13 to 18 feet long
- Weigh up to 3,500 pounds

ORCA WHALE
- Grow up to 26 feet long
- Weigh up to 12,000 pounds

BLUE WHALE
- Grow up to 100 feet long
- Weigh up to 300,000 pounds

GRAY WHALE
- Grow up to 39 feet long
- Weigh up to 60,000 pounds

HUMPBACK WHALE
- Grow up to 39 feet long
- Weigh up to 60,000 pounds