Controversial Aquatic Harvesting

With this activity, you will have the opportunity to explore and discuss how the harvesting / hunting / collection of a wide variety of species may be considered controversial for a variety of reasons

1. You need to research one of the following topics below, then evaluate the following questions. If you would like to research another controversial topic (must be aquatic) please let me know.

* Why is this a "controversial harvesting"?
* Why do the people doing the harvesting think it is ok?
* What do you feel about this issue? Justify your thinking using an EVS perspective.

[Shark Finning](https://youtu.be/388Y1VVBYd8)

[Seal Hunting](https://youtu.be/mc2t-QJvCGo)

[Turtle Egg Collecting](https://youtu.be/Y7YmymPVB5M)

[Dolphin Hunting](https://youtu.be/4KRD8e20fBo)

[Whale Hunting](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SmW7_7Q_VA&disable_polymer=true)

With this next activity, you will have to opportunity to evaluate preconceived ideas and opinions about the highly controversial issue of aquatic harvesting.

Whaling is the hunting of whales for meat, oil, blubber, and scientific research. Its earliest forms date to at least circa 3000 BC.

1. Read the following article from National Geographic on the [History of Whaling](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/article/big-fish-history-whaling/)

Contemporary whaling is subject to intense debate. Pro-whaling countries, notably Japan, Norway, and Iceland, wish to lift the ban on certain whale stocks for hunting. Anti-whaling countries and environmental groups oppose lifting the ban

1. Read the following articles to help you understand some more about the cultural and tradition values related to whaling

<http://www.ifaw.org/united-states/our-work/whales/which-countries-are-still-whaling>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/earth/story/20151203-why-do-some-countries-still-hunt-whales>

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-true-life-horror-that-inspired-moby-dick-17576/>

[In the heart of the sea](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-H35Mpj4uk&t=2s)

1. After reading all the articles about what is your perspective of whaling? Think about this from an ecocentric, anthropcentric or technocentric viewpoint. You must justify your answer.

Read the following paragraph from a BBC [“Why Do Some Countries Still Hunt Whales”](http://www.bbc.co.uk/earth/story/20151203-why-do-some-countries-still-hunt-whales)

Minke whales are found in all of the world's oceans. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) lists them as "least concern", meaning they are not in any imminent danger of extinction. The IUCN estimates that there are over 100,000 minke whales in the wild, so it should be possible to continue hunting them without endangering the species.

1. Does this change your opinion from the previous question? Why or why not?
2. Watch this short YouTube video from a BBC documentary called [“Human Planet”](https://youtu.be/Z7itOFBPzoY) This may have an effect on your EVS. What do you think now?
3. Lastly, watch this video from [Whale Wars](https://youtu.be/1jGTFiEnRPY) - a look at the conservation organization Sea Shepherd.

Write a short paragraph summarizing what you have learnt in this section. You will score highly if you can use ESS terminology, use relevant examples and show a good understanding of the topic.