

VERMONT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Published monthly by The Vermont Natural Resources Council, a non-profit citizens' conservation organization supported by membership dues and contributions. 26 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 [802] 223-2328 Chairman, Jonathan Brownell Executive Director, Seward Weber, Editor, Nathaniel Frothingham

DECEMBER, 1975 ---- NUMBER 46

WHALES

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: Union Elementary School, Montpelier

Children's writing and children's art are communicating the story of the great whales and the importance of saving them.

The plight of the whale. This is the story: 40,000 were killed last year; 40,000 will be killed this year. They have been hunted almost to extinction. They are still being hunted by Japanese and Soviet whaling fleets, using airplanes, helicopters, sonar and high-speed boats. The whaling industry uses its catch to make paints, margarine, soap, handcreams, lipstick and pet food.

Dr. Roger Payne, whose research on whale sounds has brought him national attention, has raised the vital question: "In a world that is interdependent on all living things, does the fate of the whale anticipate the fate of man?"

At the Union Elementary School in Montpelier, James Sardonis, is teaching children about whales and what is happening to them.

At the Union Elementary School in Montpelier, James Sardonis is teaching children about whales and about the expressive power of art. "We talked about whales and what is happening to them. We talked about what we could do to try to help them as artists. We could show people how beautiful whales are. We can show that it is not necessary to kill them."

These are some of the things that kids wrote.

The Whale By Jeremy E.B.

The great big animals that live in the sea,
Are the whales so happy and kind of free,
The animals that are so tame,
They were living peacefully until man came,
Those great huge animals that live in
the sea,
Yes those great huge giants that live
so carefree.

HELP SAVE WHALES

Once there were a lot of whales but now there aren't because people are killing them. Soon there won't be any. I don't think it's right to kill whales because they are an important part of sealife. So I hope that the Governor will make a law so we can't kill whales and if he does people will stop killing whales. People should care about whales, just think of you being a whale and you were getting killed, you would not like it either. And if people keep on killing them there won't be any more and if a teacher starts talking about whales the children would ask what is a whale. So for me and every other person in the world please stop killing WHALES.

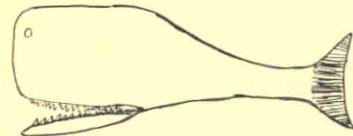
By Stephanie D. Poems

I am a whale by the name of Dan,
Of course I don't eat from a frying pan.
I love to eat fish,
But not from a dish.
My tail goes swish as I eat the fish.

A Riddle

What is blue and lives in the sea
it's a lot bigger than you or me?
It's bigger than a house
and of course a mouse
you can't catch it in a pail
guess what
it's a whale!

Save Whales



I think that whales should have a right to live. When I grow up I would like to see some. I am doing everything I can to save them. I do not think it is right to do this to them. How would you feel if they all came on shore and killed as you think that is what we are doing to them. I heard the sounds they make and I think it sounds very good. It seems that boats go out and they keep on coming in with whales. You know they might be saying this right now, "Those people are good people," and another might be saying back, "But why do they keep on killing us?" And then they get killed. You think about this.

-- Jon Rouelle

THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION OF WHICH VNRC IS THE VERMONT AFFILIATE IS SUPPORTING A BOYCOTT OF JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN PRODUCTS. THIS BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN WILL BE PURSUED UNTIL THE RUSSIANS AND JAPANESE AGREE TO WHALE CONSERVATION MEASURES. "THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE" AT P. O. BOX 3650, WASHINGTON D. C., 20007 IS CO-ORDINATING A "SAVE THE WHALES" CAMPAIGN.