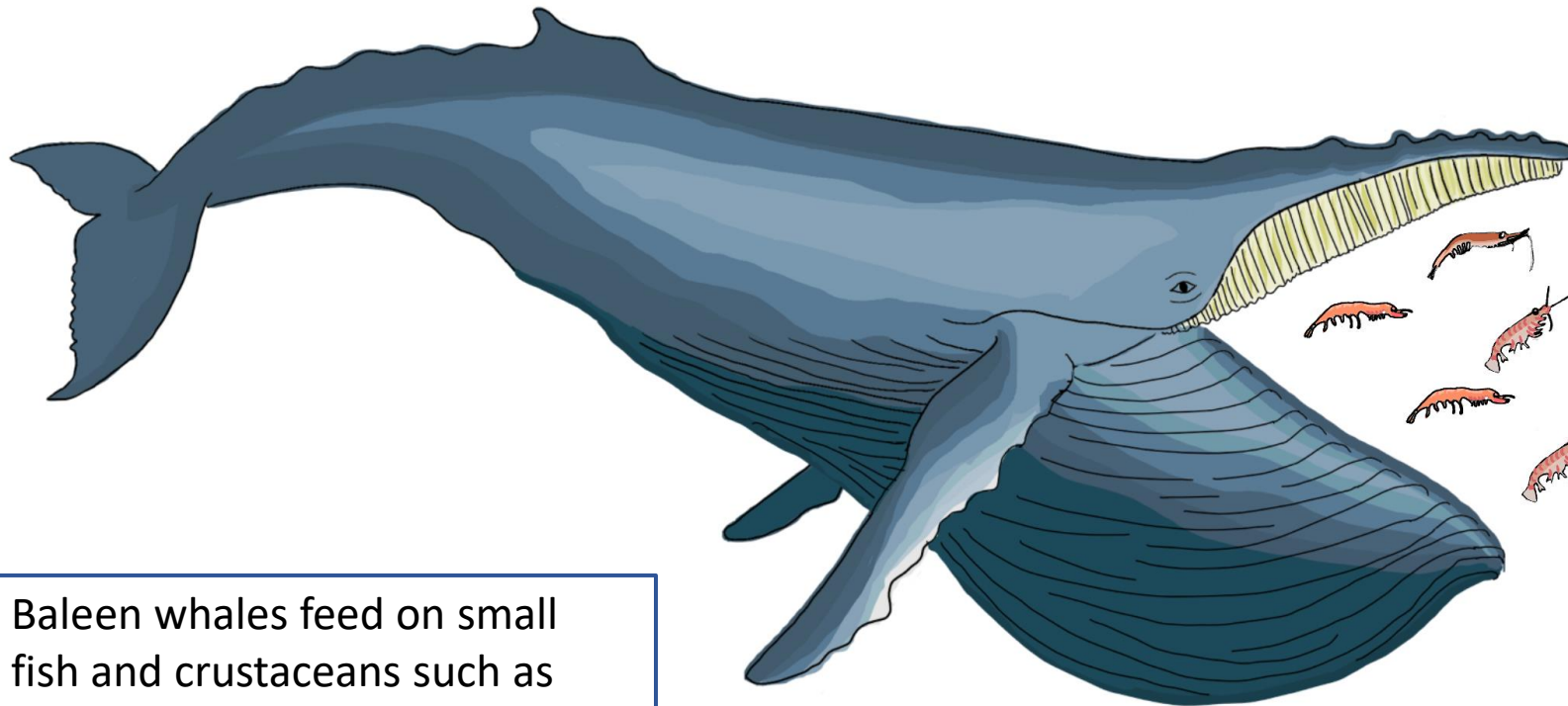




Baleen Whale Filter Feeding

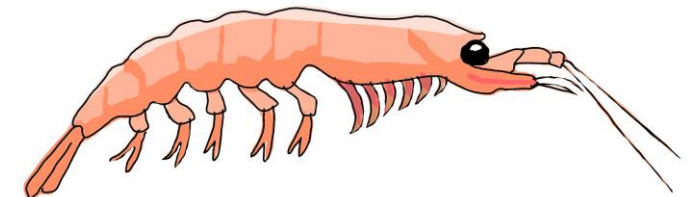


Baleen is the bristle like structure in a whale's upper jaw which it uses to filter prey from the water.

Baleen whales feed on small fish and crustaceans such as krill. They take in prey with water, trapping their food on the inside of baleen plates, which are like bristles of a broom. Some species of baleen whale don't have throat pleats but still filter feed.

Throat pleats expand to fill with water and small fish or crustaceans and then contract, pushing the water back through the baleen.

Small fish or crustaceans such as **krill**.



1 cm