

WHAT KIND OF CREATURE IS A WHALE?

Is each structure in **WHALES** more like a **FISH's**,... or more like a **CAT's**?

<u>STRUCTURE</u>	<u>FISH</u>	<u>CAT</u>
EARS		
EYES		
LUNGS		
FORELIMBS		
JAWS		
MAMMARY GLANDS		
HAIR		

A **CAT IS A MAMMAL**: an animal with hair and which nurses its young

WHALES HAVE HAIR AND NURSE THEIR YOUNG

SO WHALES MUST BE MAMMALS!

WHALE EMBRYOS EVEN HAVE HIND LIMBS!

SO... Where did whales come from???

The **earliest** modern-type **whale** fossils are about **30** mill. yrs. old.

The **earliest mammals** appeared about **200** million years ago.

The **earliest reptiles** appeared about **300** million years ago.

The **earliest fishes** appeared more than **400** million years ago.

Therefore, with all those mammal traits, including four legs, we are searching for fossils which are likely to be **transitional** between **early mammals** and the **earliest whales**, sometime **before 30 million years ago**.

If we found any transitionals between **fish and whales**, or between **reptiles and whales**, that would indeed raise serious questions about our views of vertebrate evolution.

However, **NO such fossils have ever been found**.