



### **Bottlenose dolphins off the shores of Britain**

Did you know you can see dolphins in Scotland?

#### **Summary**

Playful bottlenose dolphins gather very close to the Scottish coast. They are attracted by the salmon which are about to head inland to spawn. The dolphins leap out of the sea providing an amazing sight for the people who gather to watch.

This clip is published as part of the BBC Wildlife Finder  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/wildlifefinder/>  
where you can find further clips and resources on this subject.

#### **Watch the video, and answer the questions**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/learning/learningzone/clips/8959.flv>

1. What time of year is it?
2. People are waiting to see something "rather wonderful"...what do they hope to see?
3. How big are these dolphins?  
"\_\_\_\_\_ as long as a grown man, and \_\_\_\_\_ times the weight"
4. What are the dolphins doing in the water?
5. Why are the dolphins here?
6. What are they playing with?



### Check your answers

1. summer
2. dolphins
3. twice as long as a grown man and eight times the weight!
4. Eating fish, catching fish, playing, jumping, swimming
5. to catch salmon (a kind of fish)
6. they are playing with the fish

### Listen again

“Every day throughout the summer crowds of people gather here in the hope of witnessing something rather wonderful. Scanning the ocean they hope to catch a glimpse of movement, which might be the first sign of a sight that few would expect in Britain.

Our coast is home to some of the largest bottlenose dolphins in the world, twice as long as a grown man, and eight times the weight, and this is one of the few places on earth where you can reliably see them quite so close to dry land. And, having quite so much fun!

They come here to catch salmon which are heading back into the rivers to spawn, but they're not above playing with their food first!

And, maybe it's just me, but the dolphins seem to enjoy their fishing at least as much as we enjoy watching it!”