

You will need:

- Clipboard
- Pencil

Seal Studies

At the Aquarium, we have three species (kinds) of seals: Atlantic harbor seals, Northern fur seals, and California sea lions. Each seal species has different characteristics and behaviors.

Characteristics Draw a picture of each seal in the space provided. Include and label the following parts: ears (if visible), flippers, mouth, body markings and any other details that you feel are important. Since the Northern fur seals and California sea lions live in the same exhibit, use the exhibit signage to help you tell the difference. (*Hint: It's not about size! The largest animal in the exhibit may be the same species as the smallest.*)

Atlantic Harbor Seal (Exhibit on the Front Plaza)	Northern Fur Seal (Exhibit on the Harbor View Terrace)	California Sea Lion (Exhibit on the Harbor View Terrace)

Behavior Comparison

Continue to observe each of the seal species. This time, notice their behaviors. Watch how they move and interact with each other and the humans around them. Put a check by a behavior if you see it. You may not see all, or even any, of the listed behaviors. A few blanks have been left for you to fill in.

Atlantic Harbor Seal (Exhibit on the Front Plaza)	Northern Fur Seal (Exhibit on the Harbor View Terrace)	California Sea Lion (Exhibit on the Harbor View Terrace)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Playing with toys ● Grooming/scratching ● Working with a trainer ● Vocalizing ● Bottling (floating vertically in the water) ● Jughandling (floating horizontally in the water with a flipper out) ● Porpoising (jumping out of the water) ● Swimming upside down ● Out of the water (not moving) ● Out of the water (moving) ● _____ ● _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Playing with toys ● Grooming/scratching ● Working with a trainer ● Vocalizing ● Bottling (floating vertically in the water) ● Jughandling (floating horizontally in the water with a flipper out) ● Porpoising (jumping out of the water) ● Swimming upside down ● Out of the water (not moving) ● Out of the water (moving) ● _____ ● _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Playing with toys ● Grooming/scratching ● Working with a trainer ● Vocalizing ● Bottling (floating vertically in the water) ● Jughandling (floating horizontally in the water with a flipper out) ● Porpoising (jumping out of the water) ● Swimming upside down ● Out of the water (not moving) ● Out of the water (moving) ● _____ ● _____

What differences did you find?

How do you think these differences help them to survive in their habitat in the wild?