



I've seen "Flipper"!

Atlantic Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) are common animals seen in Biscayne Bay. The average number of dolphins in the bay is about 115 per year. These mammals eat a wide variety of fishes, squids, eels, rays, shrimp, crabs, and even sharks. The average size for male and female dolphins is 9 feet and 440 pounds. The estimated life span is between 35-44 years. Dolphins are very friendly and social animals. They are often seen traveling in groups of 12-15. Because dolphins are mammals, they breathe air just like humans. Dolphins come up to the surface to breathe several times a minute.

Occasionally some dive down as long as 10 minutes. If you are lucky enough to hear the clicks dolphins make, you are witnessing their use of echolocation, a type of sonar to detect objects in the water like your boat.

