

A Living Laboratory of Unique Biodiversity

Antarctic krill are a keystone species, serving as a major food source for more than 25 percent of the species in the diverse Antarctic food web, including penguins, seals, whales, and many fish species. The many remarkable species of the Southern Ocean make up some of the most intact marine ecosystems on the planet, where scientists are continually discovering new marine biodiversity, and can study nature in the absence of human interference.

The following are some of the species that call the Southern Ocean home.

1 Penguins

- Adélie
- Chinstrap
- Gentoo
- Emperor
- King
- Southern rockhopper
- Macaroni

2 Whales

- Blue
- Southern bottlenose
- Humpback
- Antarctic minke
- Long-finned pilot
- Sperm
- Sei
- Arnoux's beaked
- Fin
- Orca

3 Seals

- Antarctic fur
- Crabeater
- Southern elephant
- Leopard
- Ross
- Weddell

4 Seabirds

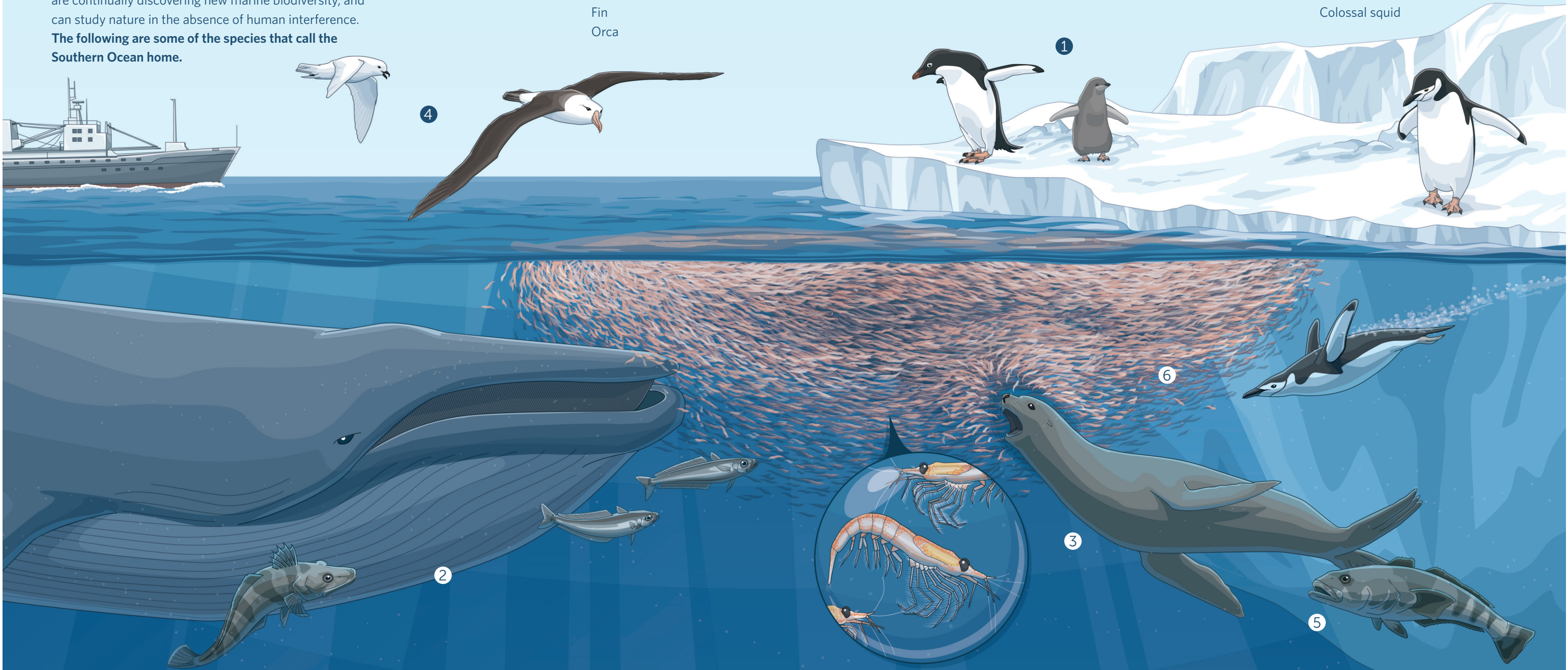
- Snow petrel
- Wandering albatross
- Antarctic petrel
- Antarctic fulmar

5 Fish

- Antarctic and Patagonian toothfish (Chilean sea bass)
- Icefish
- Lanternfish
- Antarctic eel cod
- Grenadier
- McCain's skate
- Marbled rockcod

6 Invertebrates

- Krill
- Antarctic sea spider
- Crawling and glass sponges
- Antarctic coral
- Bone-eating worm
- Yeti (hairy) crab
- Octopus
- Starfish
- Colossal squid



Source: Claude De Broyer et al. (eds.), "Biogeographic Atlas of the Southern Ocean," Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (2014), http://share.biodiversity.aq/Atlas/example_BASO_web.pdf