

## Activity: Animal Rehabilitation

Using the information provided, answer the questions about the two seals we have at the Aquarium of Niagara!

### Grey Seal (Della)

Della is a thirty-year-old Grey Seal who was rescued off the coast of Delaware, which is how she got her name. She was rescued when she was found on the beach not far from humans. Once she was taken to the rehabilitation center, the physical exam revealed, an injured right flipper, parasites, and a skin infection. Della was unable to be released due to her lack of fear of humans. She arrived at the Aquarium of Niagara on December 21, 2015.



**Why was Della rescued?**

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**What were her injuries?**

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**What treatment do you think was provided?**

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**Why is Della at the Aquarium of Niagara?**

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## Harbor Seal (Stryker)

Stryker is a three-year-old Harbor Seal who was rescued off the coast of New Jersey. He was rescued because he had been struck by a boat and suffered severe injuries to his rear flipper. Once at the rehabilitation center it was decided to amputate his right hind flipper. After a long recovery, the rehab center performed a swim test with Stryker. He unfortunately failed and was in need of a new home. He arrived at the Aquarium of Niagara on September 22, 2017.



**Why was Stryker rescued?**

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**What were his injuries?**

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**What treatment do you think was provided?**

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**Why is Stryker at the Aquarium of Niagara?**

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### Discussion Questions:

1. Animals are not the only ones who get sick or injured. Discuss with a member of your household, a time when you got very sick or injured. What steps were taken to help you get better? How long did it take?
2. Why do you think we it is important to try to release all the animals taken into a rehabilitation center?
3. What do you think would happen if we did not release the animals close to where they were rescued?
4. Research some animal rehabilitation centers around you. What kind of animals to they take in? What is their rehabilitation process?
5. Do you think all animals that are brought to the rehabilitation centers are able to heal and recover? How might rescuers or rehabilitation workers handle animals with injuries or illnesses too severe to save them?