

## 11<sup>th</sup> December - Seal



Scientists think that seals (and their cousins, sea-lions, fur-seals and walruses) evolved from a bear like ancestor 23 million years ago; they were probably land animals who started going into the water for food. Now they are amazingly well adapted to marine life: Some species of seal can hold their breath for up to 2 hours under water by conserving oxygen. Seal have a thick layer of fat (blubber) under their skin to keep them warm in cold water; baby seals (pups) need to put on weight quickly and the milk of some species is 50/60 % fat.