

Seals in Northern Ireland

A seal's fur is brownish-grey with small dark spots. The common seal has a body covered with a thick layer of fat called blubber. The blubber can be found under the skin and helps keep the animal warm. A seal uses flippers for swimming. On the land, seals often like to lie in a head up, tail up position.

Common seals eat a wide variety of fish. They may swim long distances to find food. Pups are born in June or July. They can swim and dive within a few hours of birth. The pup is fed on very rich milk and grows quickly.

Common seals can be seen all around the coast of Northern Ireland, but they are mostly found on the County Down coastline. The best time to see seals is in July and August.



Questions

1. How do seals stay warm?

2. What do seals eat?

3. What do you call a baby seal? Is there another baby animal with the same name?

4. When is the best time to see a seal in Northern Ireland?

5. Draw a seal based on the description above.

